

gay community news

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The Gay Weekly

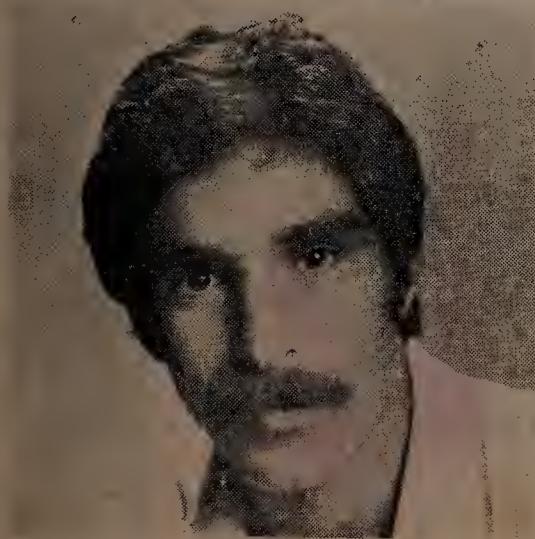
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*Harry Reems
in Deep Trouble!*

p. 3



January 10 Set for Boston Re-Run

'Hanging Judge' to Preside at New Saxe Trial

By Nancy Wechsler

BOSTON — Susan Saxe will go on trial for the second time in Boston on Jan. 10, Judge Walter H. McLaughlin ruled at a pre-trial hearing last Monday. McLaughlin, who is retiring at the end of the year, also named Justice James Roy — known as one of the toughest judges in the Commonwealth — to preside at the new trial. Saxe's first trial ended in a hung jury last month.

The pre-trial hearing was marked by a heated debate between Judge McLaughlin and lawyers for the defendant. Court observers and press seemed to feel that McLaughlin had become even tougher and more hostile to the defense than he had been previously, while defense lawyers Nancy Gertner and Tom Shapiro had become especially spirited and aggressive in their courtroom statements. "It looks like it's showdown time," commented one court regular.

In announcing Jan. 10 as the trial date, McLaughlin set Dec. 1 as the deadline for the filing of all pre-trial motions. The judge indicated that he would deny all defense motions to dismiss the charges, by asserting several times that "the trial WILL begin on January 10th." The defense is expected to once again move to have all charges dropped because of the publicity surrounding the case. Attorney Shapiro indicated the defense was planning on filing a motion which would challenge the State's right to try Saxe a second time. Shapiro said, "It is our position that there are serious problems with double jeopardy and due process." In support of the proposed motion the



defense requested to put on the record, but not reveal to the public, the actual vote of the jury in the last trial. Shapiro says they need the vote in the court record for purposes of appeal. It is the responsibility of the prosecution, Shapiro said in court, to prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt — and when they have not been able to do that to the satisfaction of a majority of the jury why should they have the right to a second chance? McLaughlin denied the request to put the vote of the jury on the record. (It is rumored that the vote of the jury was 9-3 for acquittal. It is speculated that the juror who leaked the story to the *Globe* that the jury was evenly split had supported conviction in the case.)

Judge Roy to Preside

The assignment of Justice Roy to preside at the new trial was generally

seen as a move hostile to the defense. According to local lawyers, Roy is one of the "worst" judges in the Commonwealth from a defendant's point of view. He has a reputation for trying as hard as he can to get a conviction — using his tone of voice, rulings during the trial, and instructions to the jury — to benefit the prosecution. He also has a reputation for being tough on sentencing. Another member of the press, present at the hearing, informed this reporter that Roy was nicknamed "the hanging judge." Members of the Susan Saxe Defense Committee believe that it is no accident that McLaughlin chose Roy. "They are going to do everything they can to get a conviction this time."

Challenges at Issue

In the last trial McLaughlin had granted the defense 32 peremptory challenges to the State's 16, to help balance what he admitted was prejudicial pre-trial publicity against the defendant. (Peremptory challenges are used during the jury selection process to dismiss potential jurors whom either the prosecution or defense do not wish to see on the jury, but whom the judge refuses to dismiss for cause.)

Prosecutor Gaffney has filed a motion to eliminate the difference in the number of challenges and set 16 as the number for both the prosecution and defense. Gaffney argued that McLaughlin's earlier ruling had been both a mistake of judgment and of law. He also claimed that the publicity during the trial was beneficial towards the defense and that the extra challenges gave Saxe a jury that was prejudiced against the Commonwealth. Gaffney intends to back up his claims about the publicity during the trial by subpoenaing copies of news reports from newspapers, radio and television, and presenting it to the judge at the next pre-trial hearing.

McLaughlin appears to agree with Gaffney about the questions of publicity and the number of peremptory challenges the defense should get in the second trial. While he postponed ruling on the motion until the defense had a chance to file a brief, he indicated that he believed the publicity had not been so detrimental to Saxe and that he would rule in favor of the prosecution.

Discussion of this motion became a debate as McLaughlin launched an attack on Saxe for giving an interview to the *Boston Herald American* "the day before the trial, giving her side of

the story on the front page of the paper . . . and then sitting silently in court not even taking the stand in her own defense." McLaughlin indicated he had thought about citing Saxe for contempt for the interview.

Tom Shapiro, one of Saxe's attorneys, was noticeably angry as he stood up to reply to McLaughlin. "First of all, your honor, Susan did not give the interview to the *Herald* the day before the trial, nor did she use it to talk about this case. She said once she was innocent and that was printed — not on the front page but on an inside page near the middle of the paper. There have been six years of pre-trial publicity in this case. Six years of newspapers assuming Susan Saxe is guilty. You have chosen to pick out one article that counters that. One article out of how many? The *Boston Globe* also printed an article the day before the trial. You didn't mention that article. That article had in it the assumption of guilt and contained everything you had asked the press not to write about."

"Declaration of War"

Byrna Aronson, a member of the Susan Saxe Defense Committee, was at court during the hearing. "I think what we saw in there was a formal declaration of war." Aronson told GCN, "By assigning a judge who has the worst reputation in the court, by complaining to the defense that we have submitted more motions than anyone else in the Commonwealth, by indicating he will rule against the defense having twice as many challenges as the prosecution — McLaughlin is telling us we came too close. McLaughlin is aware of the rumors the same as we are that the vote was 9-3 for acquittal and he won't tolerate an acquittal this time. It is very clear that he is angry that he didn't get a conviction — despite the fact that he is supposed to be a neutral arbiter."

Susan Saxe remains in the Suffolk County house of detention which is located in the Suffolk County Courthouse. There are no other prisoners with her. It is expected she will remain in Massachusetts if not in Boston at least until the next set of pre-trial hearings. Her lawyers are concerned that she will once again be taken out of state, but McLaughlin has said in court that it is his preference that she remain in Massachusetts through the next trial.

Court Backs Student Groups

RICHMOND, VA — A federal court of appeals has ruled that public colleges and universities cannot refuse registration of campus student groups. The 4th US Court of Appeals in Richmond ruled that an association of students whose objectives are legal must be accorded the same status as any other campus organization. The court thus overruled a US District Court ruling that refused to order that Virginia Commonwealth University to allow registration of that university's Gay Student Alliance.

In the Virginia Commonwealth University case, the gay group's application was not handled through the regular channels but was brought to the university Board of Visitors which rejected the registration request. The

board claimed that registration would imply university sanction of homosexuality, increase gay contacts, and encourage other gay people to flock to the university.

However, the appeals court made it clear that there was no evidence to indicate that the gay organization was engaged in any illegal conduct. The court observed that while acts of sodomy are illegal in the state of Virginia, homosexuality in itself is not illegal.

According to the court, the gay student group was simply a political organization "seeking to generate understanding and acceptance of individuals whose sexual orientation is wholly or partly homosexual."

Gay Men's Center Evicted

BOSTON — Boston's alternative meeting-place and activity center for gay men — the Gay Men's Center — has been evicted. The center, which has been located at 36 Bromfield St. in downtown Boston since it was founded last January, will have to find a new home at the end of December.

According to one member of the GMC governing board — the Round-table — the Gay Men's Center space was originally rented as an "artist's loft" with the understanding that it would provide workshop area for men's groups. The GMC has had a

series of dances and parties since its inception, all of which were "cleared" with tenants in the building. However, as a result of the latest GMC dance, some tenants complained to the landlord, who then ordered the center to find a new home.

The GMC needs about 800 feet of space in three or four rooms. It is looking for quarters which are centrally located and is willing to share a space. Anyone who has such a space or who has any suggestions should call the GMC at 338-7967.

news notes

CATHOLIC STAND

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The National Conference of Catholic Bishops, meeting for their four-day annual meeting here, voted last week on a pastoral letter setting strict sexual guidelines. As GCN went to press, no amendments had yet been approved or added to the gay rights section of the code.

"Genital sexual behavior is oriented toward marriage and must be heterosexual," the document states. But it adds that "Like everyone else, homosexuals should not suffer from prejudice against their basic human rights. The Christian community should provide them with love and pastoral care."

The pastoral letter, which restates traditional Church views on abortion, birth control, and sexuality, was described as "a conservative document" by Brian McNaught, National Social Action Director of Dignity, the organization of gay Catholics.

GONORRHEA MARCHES ON

ATLANTA — The new strain of penicillin-resistant gonorrhea has spread to eleven states and has been identified in several foreign countries, the National Center for Disease Control reports.

Worried health officials fear that the new strain will pose a threat to gonorrhea control efforts and increase the cost of treatment. "The cost could go from about 50 cents for a shot of penicillin to \$3 to \$5 and as much as \$10 for treatment with other antibiotics," Dr. Ronald K. St. John told the United Press International.

MOOT COURT

CAMBRIDGE — A group of Harvard law students will argue in moot court the case of a teacher who has been fired for being a homosexual and who would not refrain from speaking openly about homosexuality. The mock case will be argued before Justice John Paul Stevens of the U.S. Supreme Court and two other federal justices on Thursday, Nov. 18. The moot court, which is open to the general public, will take place at the Ames Courtroom, Austin Hall, on the campus of the Harvard Law School in Cambridge.

RITA MAE WINS GRANT

BOSTON — Rita Mae Brown, celebrated author of *Rubyfruit Jungle*, *In Her Day*, and numerous essays and poems, has received an Artists Fellowship from the Massachusetts Arts and Humanities Foundation. The grant for \$3,000 is one of five grants in the area of fiction for 1976 made by the non-profit, state-funded organization. Grants are awarded once a year in eleven different areas.

Brown's fellowship will assist her financially while she is working on her third novel. "I was delighted to receive the grant," the author told GCN.

HAYAKAWA'S PYROTECHNICS

SAN FRANCISCO — California's newly elected Senator, Republican S.I. Hayakawa, continues to mystify California gays with his views on gay rights. Hayakawa had been quoted early in his election battle with incumbent Sen. John Tunney as saying "I am deeply prejudiced against gay people and I will vote that way." However, recently, the well-known semanticist and former hardliner against student protests, seems to be changing his tune. In an article in the *Gay Crusader* writer Bruce Graves quotes Hayakawa as saying that although he considers gayness an "abomination," he would be the "first to stand up against anyone who persecuted gay people merely because of their sexuality."

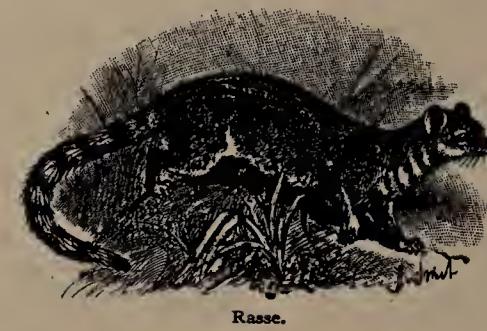
"His wit and candor enthralled me for the length of the interview, and I left, determined to see to it that he was elected to the US Senate on Nov. 2," author Graves wrote.

'FAMILY HOUR'

LOS ANGELES, CA — "Censorship by government or privately created review boards cannot be tolerated," a federal judge wrote last week as he struck down television's "Family Hour" concept. US District Judge Warren Ferguson ruled that the family viewing concept violated the First Amendment guaranteeing freedom of speech. However, Ferguson admitted that his court did not have the authority to end the practice.

Justice Ferguson announced the decision in a suit brought by guilds representing writers, producers, directors, and actors plus Tandem Productions, Inc., headed by Norman Lear, producer of *All in the Family* and other "adult" shows. The suits were brought against the Federal Communications Commission, the National Association of Broadcasters, and the three leading television networks.

Both CBS and ABC television announced that they would appeal the decision. The "Family Hour" was adopted in the spring of 1975 to reduce the level of sex and violence shown on television between the hours of 7 and 9 p.m.



MEN'S CENTER

BOSTON — Committee membership needs and Center goals to expand and improve activities at the Gay Men's Center were discussed during the members meeting Sunday, Nov. 14. Committee chairpeople spoke of more support and input of the general membership to create improvement and addressed the membership about the opportunities to assist by participation in a committee or by leading a workshop. It was reported also that a search committee has been formed to find new quarters for the Gay Men's Center.

Venereal diseases, hemorrhoids, and prostate stimulation were subjects of questions answered by Dr. Sandy Reder and Thomas Nylund of the Fenway Community Health Center Tuesday evening, Nov. 9. A crowd of 32 men attended the discussion.

The Gay Forum Tuesday, Nov. 16 will feature Rev. Randy Gibson and Stephanie Sommers of Project Lambda. In the weeks ahead the Forum will have as guests Representative Barney Frank Nov. 23, and a member of the Fort Hill Faggots Nov. 30.

Regular weekly activities continue at the GMC. 'Gays in Fiction' are currently reviewing "Different — an Anthology of Homosexual Short Stories" edited by Stephen Wright. This group meets on Wednesday at 7:30. Psychic Healing and Meditation group meets at the same time. The Gay Topics rap meeting on Thursdays at 7:30 will be discussing the personal involvements of "Coming Out."

There will be a coffee house and board games evening at the Center Friday evening. On Saturday evening at 9:00 there will be a disco night.

TEAR LIBERATION

WASHINGTON — The loosening-up of sexual roles appears to be having an impact on American political life, the *Baltimore Sun* reports. Noting that the 1976 election "might well be said to have ended in a vale of tears, the *Sun* notes, "President Ford and most of his family did it in defeat, and Jimmy Carter and most of his family did it in victory. Vice President-elect Walter F. Mondale was on the verge, and Senator Robert J. Dole did it again." The newspaper asked a number of psychologists for their opinions on the subject of male expression of emotion at a high political level.

"It is apparent to anyone watching what goes on, whether it is a psychologist or everyday person, that clearly the norms are changing, and that our conception of what are bounds of normal behavior are altering," said a Stanford University psychologist.

But Dr. John Money, head of the gender clinic at Johns Hopkins College of Medicine, was not too impressed. "I think that what we are seeing here is that these men have learned which are the occasions when they must not cry. I suspect that neither of them would cry if they got hit across the temple with a baseball bat, that they would be very brave in the stiff upper-lip department.

"But," Money continues, "they know the society in which they live, and they know the circumstances in which they can cry . . . You are allowed to shed tears of joy and you are allowed to shed tears in saying good-bye on the dockside, the train station, or in the White House."

LESBIAN MOTHER BENEFIT

PORTRLAND, MA. — Portland's Gay People's Alliance sponsored a benefit pot luck supper for the Carol Whitehead Defense Fund on Sunday, Nov. 14. Whitehead recently won custody of her children in a widely publicized custody case. However, because of legal expenses still unpaid, the benefit was held to help raise money. The benefit included a speech by Whitehead and general entertainment.

TORRES INDEPENDENT

NEW YORK — Jailed Puerto Rican Independentista Lureida Torres was freed Thursday, Oct. 28 after over four months in federal custody for refusing to cooperate with a grand jury conducting an investigation into the Puerto Rican Independence movement in the United States. Torres, a former New York City schoolteacher and member of the Puerto Rican Socialist Party (PSP), had been called before a Federal Grand Jury in New York last January which was investigating a series of bombings.

When the grand jury expired on Oct. 28, over 250 people gathered at 10:30 p.m. in front of the Metropolitan Correctional Center in deserted lower Manhattan to greet Torres with a candlelight vigil after her release from that institution earlier in the day. Other inmates of the MCC indicated their solidarity with Torres by holding matches to the windows of their cells.

Torres greeted those assembled, saying that her jailing was an act of repression directed at the independence movement, and that she was willing to go to jail again if necessary.

For more information, contact the Grand Jury Project, 853 Broadway, New York, NY 10003, (212) 533-2299.

GCN, Inc., Board of Directors Elected

BOSTON — GCN, Inc., parent company of *Gay Community News*, has announced the results of elections to the corporation's board of directors. Members of the board serve for a term of six months and make decisions involving the affairs of the corporation's three divisions — *Gay Community News*, *Gay Person's Guide to New England*, and *Intergaylactic Distributors*.

Elected members of the board include Lionel Cuffie, *Gay Community News* Business Manager; George Dimsey, *Gay Community News* subscription person; Gregg Howe, the newspaper's Advertising Manager; Tom Hurley, news writer; Anne Johnston, layout volunteer; David Peterson, former

Managing Editor of *Gay Person's Guide to New England*; Bill Shawcross, layout volunteer; Marion Tholander, former Intergaylactic Distributors head and former GCN Managing Editor; Nancy Walker, copy editor; and Ken Westhassel, layout volunteer.

Board members are elected from the membership of GCN, Inc., by the membership of the corporation. According to the GCN, Inc., by-laws, members of the corporation are defined as anyone who makes a "regular, consistent, and continuing effort for the corporation." Heads of the three divisions attend all board meetings but do not have a vote.

Harry Reems—Unlikely Civil Liberties Cause

By Bill Callahan

BOSTON — Harry Reems, an actor best known for his appearance in *Deep Throat*, was in Boston last week seeking a different kind of exposure. He is trying to raise enough money to pay the legal fees which he hopes will keep him out of jail. At a press conference at the Charles Street Meetinghouse, Reems explained his case.

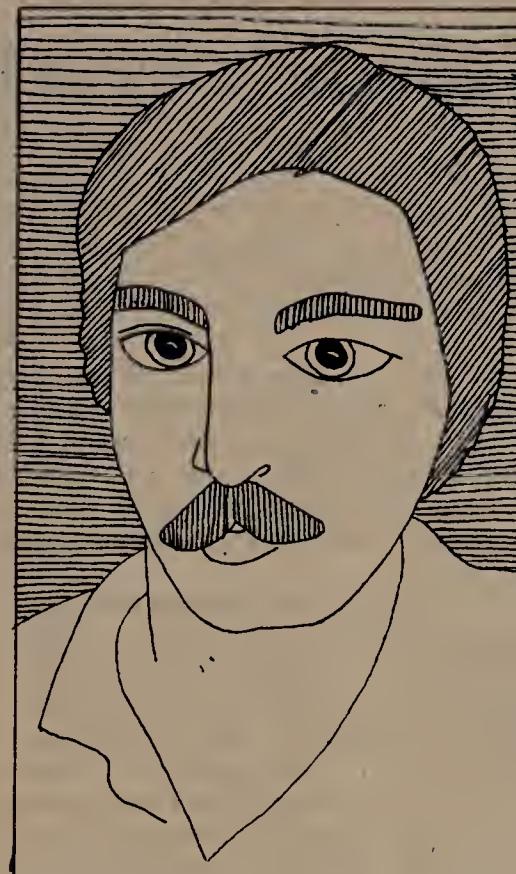
Reems was convicted in April of being part of a "national conspiracy to transport interstate an obscene motion picture" for his role in *Deep Throat*. His activity in the film consisted of one day of acting in 1972, for which he was paid \$100, and he had signed a contract relinquishing all artistic, marketing, and distribution rights. In 1974, FBI agents arrested Reems and he was extradited to Memphis, Tenn. After a nine-week trial, Reems was among eleven defendants found guilty of conspiracy. Reems faces up to five years in jail and a \$10,000 fine.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Larry Parrish named in his charge 101 unindicted co-conspirators in the case, ranging from the actors to the crew of hotel which housed the cast to the studio musicians who recorded the soundtrack. As a basis for prosecution,

Parrish used the Supreme Court's Miller ruling of 1973, which states that material is obscene if taken as a whole, it appeals to the prurient interests of the average American according to contemporary community standards. By charging the defendants with conspiracy, Parrish avoided having a First Amendment-based trial. In fact, Judge Harry Wellford informed Bruce Kramer, Reems' attorney at the time, that if he mentioned First Amendment rights to the jury, he would be found in contempt.

By Parrish's definition of "vicarious responsibility," a person who joins a conspiracy is responsible for the acts of all other conspirators until the conspiracy is ended, unless he withdraws from the conspiracy and actively attempts to destroy the conspiracy. Reems is the first actor to be prosecuted on the federal level after his rights to the work have been sold (*Deep Throat*'s director, Gerry Damiano, and female lead, Linda Lovelace, were granted immunity to testify for the prosecution. Lovelace dodged the subpoena).

Reems' case is now up for appeal at the Sixth Circuit Court in Cincinnati. His attorney, Alan Dershowitz of Harvard Law School, is filing the



appeal on a number of grounds. One is that Reems is being tried *ex post facto*. The statute under which he was tried was passed in 1973, a year after Reems made the movie and sold his rights to its control. Parrish maintained that a

conspirator is still responsible for any crime committed after the conspiracy.

Another basis for appeal will be on the definition of community standards. Parrish, through the use of various witnesses, demonstrated that the United States was the community to which *Deep Throat* was objectionable. Dershowitz maintains that the definition of community which Parrish used was too broad.

In his news conference, Reems called his prosecution "a ploy of the government to stop the moral decay and cancerous growth of public sex. What we need is a massive display of public concern for infringement on civil liberties. I'm fighting this case for two reasons: to keep my butt out of jail and to help protect civil liberties. No artist will feel safe to explore or experiment with the concept of sex. Every American will be denied the right to see, read and write what they want."

Right now, Reems' main problem is money. The original trial cost him \$40,000 of his own money. The prosecution's case is reported to have cost the government between \$2 and \$4 million. Reems has been trying to raise about \$150,000 which he feels he needs for the appeal. He is now bankrupt and

(Continued on page 6)

news commentary

What's Gay in the Boston Police Scandal

By David Brill

BOSTON — District One of the Boston Police Department contains 23 or so gay "establishments," the city's gayest ghetto (Beacon Hill), and, judging by the explosive Special Investigations Unit (SIU) report issued last week, its most corrupt collection of cops. So what? Save for a paragraph about an unproven sex ring involving teenage boys, the 572-page document shows quite convincingly that the Boston Police spend a disproportionately small amount of time involving themselves in gay or gay-related matters. Heterosexuality and how to handle it, in fact, seems to be the cops' biggest problem, and that matter has now been tossed into the hands of Supt.-in-Chief (and Commissioner-to-be) Joseph M. Jordan by outgoing Commissioner Robert diGrazia.

District One is downtown, the "hot-test" of the fifteen Boston police districts. It was only natural that the SIU would start their investigation of corruption there; after all, how many movie theaters, bars, and dark alleys are there in West Roxbury? And what other district could occupy 30 pages in local papers all week?

In the entire document, there is only one notable reference to homosexuality. It allegedly involved "steam baths" being used "by homosexuals for sexual activities involving teenage boys." (The report covers the period from Feb. 15, 1973 to Sept. 30, 1975.) For the record, Ptl. Albert Knuipis of the Boston Police Informational Services Unit says that the exact location of these "steam baths" cannot be disclosed. "That report is still being investigated by Internal Affairs, and we cannot reveal any further information," explained Knuipis.

It is possible, though, to piece together the story without the assistance of the police. There are currently two operating gay baths in Boston; at the time the investigation was being made, there were three, all in District One. The third bath was a small, short-lived venture in the basement of a Combat Zone bar. It suffered a ravaging fire in February,

and has never been reopened. This establishment was rightly considered the least reputable of the baths; there were numerous reports of patrons having the valuables stolen from their lockers. And as for the charge of teenage boys — well, there have always been hustlers who look older than they are. Still, 18- and 19-year-olds are still "teenagers" according to the dictionary, although they are adults under the law. For the *Globe* to have reprinted the lines (to its credit, the *Herald American* did not), even though the police were "unable to substantiate or refute the allegations," was irresponsible of the newspaper.

The other two Boston baths operate under security conditions that border on the extreme. Not only is a photo ID required for membership, but there are such things as door-buzzers, periscopic mirrors, and hidden microphones outside the doors to prevent trouble from entering.

However, the word "gay" did show up in more than one press report concerning the investigation. The colossal bumble was best portrayed in the *Herald*, which noted that a young man who declined a hooker's advances in "Jacques, a gay bar in the Bay Village," soon found himself being assaulted by a police officer. The hooker was a woman, the man was not, and the bar wasn't especially a gay one. Most local gays ceased frequenting Jacques years ago; the Brighams in Harvard Square is gayer, not to mention safer.

One item of peripheral interest was the discussion of FIO (Field Interrogation and/or Observation) reports, something which makes the writer fear that the local constabulary are keeping a "gay file" of sorts at police headquarters. The FIO reports, the police contend, are not being used in a discriminating fashion against gay men, but are merely a tool in combating organized crime. Good and well, but how does one explain that not a single FIO was submitted following the funeral of the mother of a well-known Mob figure, even though there were

hundreds of possibilities, and an ample complement of police? This further points to the dire need for reforming the FIO system.

Rep. Barney Frank, in whose district half of District One lies, was not especially surprised by the report. "It shows two things," said Frank. "One, it confirms charges that the cops were protecting Jacques and The Other Side. And two, it shows we really ought to be repealing the victimless crime laws . . . gambling, prostitution." Frank said the report makes a good argument for his perennial legislation to establish "zoning areas" where certain activities would be permitted.

Sen. Michael LoPresti, also a legislator from the area, declined comment except to say that the report should have been released "eighteen months ago."

Boston Licensing Board Commissioner Jon Straight expressed concern since "so many of the problems — gambling, prostitution, and drugs — revolve around licensed premises." Straight, who supports the Frank "zoning" concept for adult entertainment (which the Licensing Board will discuss at a Dec. 8 public hearing), said that he hadn't read the actual report, but will ask the board's legal counsel to obtain a copy. Asked whether he thought the police, who are the board's official enforcement agents, were doing their jobs, he said, "There's always room for improvement. The real question is what's going to happen now?"

"I'm not a bit surprised by it at all," responded Ann Richards of the Bay Village Neighborhood Association, which applauded the demotion of Dep. Supt. Joseph Saia 16 months ago. (Saia was criticized the most severely of the three officers named in the report.) "He was very unresponsive . . . he'd promise the world and deliver nothing." Richards added that she "and many of the neighbors" support the idea of "legalized prostitution."

City Councillor Albert L. "Dapper" O'Neil, Boston Police Patrolmen's Association head Chester Broderick,

and Saia all blasted diGrazia and the SIU investigation with predictable ferocity.

And so it was along those personalities that the battle lines were drawn: Frank, diGrazia, Jordan (who called the report "a useful tool in evaluating the command staff"), and, to a lesser extend, Mayor Kevin White, all expressing some faith in the document's goals, with White discernibly peeved that he wasn't privy to its making. Broderick, O'Neil, and the police charging "outsiders" with defaming the good officers. The choice is not new and it is not hard to choose sides.

What is important to watch for is what Jordan does with the report. With less than a week to go in his administration, diGrazia left it to his successor to use the information compiled in the study, which is the first of its kind. Jordan reeks with integrity but he is not, most observers concur, the brusque, politically deft character that diGrazia is. It will be the first test of how well he can carry on the reforms begun by diGrazia, reforms that he supports in principle. Broderick is a tough adversary.

Secondly, assuming the City Council does not abolish the SIU, Det. Lt. James Hayes might consider embarking on a second study, this one in the adjacent zone, District Four — Back Bay and the South End. Many gay people have complained about the overuse and abuse of the "civil custody" process for "drunk and disorderly persons" at the District Four station. "Corrupt inattention" or inattentive corruption, like other brands of criminality, will continue only so long as its perpetrators think they can get away with it, and the police are no exception. (Suggestions, signed or anonymous, are still being accepted by the SIU. Their address is Box 911, Boston, MA 02117.)

And for Bob diGrazia, he has left Boston with a bang, making his final week here filled with all the fire, color, and politics that characterized his first four years.

editorial

Ebony's Appalling Manifesto

The November issue of *Ebony* magazine has surfaced with a truly appalling manifesto written by Winston E. Moore, director of the Cook County (Ill.) Department of Corrections. "The majority of prisoners in the nation's penal institutions are latent or overt homosexuals," says Moore, in his article entitled "How to End Sex Problems in Our Prisons." (See "Did You See?" in this week's issue.)

It is well-established that many persons who are not homosexually inclined do change some of their habits and tastes when in a prison environment, and usually revert to their previous state upon release. Moore, though, contends that such is not the case, but that the nation's prisons are filled with homosexuals. Given the fact that one out of every four prisoners in the United States is incarcerated on murder charges, and even more on charges of armed robbery, that is a frightening and insulting indictment.

Moore offers nothing to back his claim that "homosexual involvement, not gambling" is the No. 1 cause of murder in prison. And it appears that the strict control of prisons by corrections officials, which Moore advocates, does not seem to be working too well, considering his perception of institutions as "Sodom and Gomorrah" and "bastions of openly conducted lesbianism," which is how the author described women's prisons.

This is merely another example of the chronic and severe homophobia, not homophilia, that the nation's prison culture engenders. In the past week, we have received two additional letters from prisoners stating that their subscriptions to GCN have been cut off by the prison administration. U.S. Rep. Edward I. Koch (D-NY) has written to the U.S. Bureau of Prisons urging them to change their policies to permit gay publications in correctional institutions.

There are gays in prison, just as there are gays everywhere else. But Moore's assertion that a furlough system would "cure" all homosexuality in prisons is as hard to accept as his oblique approval of psychosurgery for "curing" violent inmates.

We urge our readers, especially Black gays, to write the editors of *Ebony* in protest against Moore's article. (The address is 820 South Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60605.) *Ebony's* prior reputation as a responsible journalistic effort seems irreparably damaged, not to mention how much homophobia in Black households may have been fostered by the article.

The supreme irony of the November *Ebony* is that in the same issue there

appears a ringing review of "Norman, Is That You?", the fag-baiting film that has offended so many gays through its portrayal of so many stereotypes. Incredibly, *Ebony* says, "It is a very funny film that gently explores the world of homosexuality with a deft touch unlikely to raise the hackles of the nation's growing militant gay liberationists. Beneath the laughter, there is a plea for needed enlightenment and a saner approach."

"Enlightenment and a saner approach" would be two things that we suggest the people at *Ebony* work to achieve.

community voice

tequila sunrise strikes back

Dear GCN:

In response to a recent "Letter to the Editor" which begins "Tequila Sunset—Go Home...", we'd like to say that playing for this women's benefit dance in Provincetown was never seriously proposed to Tequila Sunrise.

Although we had been approached on it by a woman who introduced herself as Nancy Ryan, and claimed herself to be the manager of Carol and the Burgundies, she never followed through with any details, contract, or deposit for this engagement. It seems that whoever coordinated this function was somewhat uncoordinated and perhaps should seek a more efficient business manager.

Being from New York, we had no idea this letter had been published until we received numerous calls from our friends and business associates in Boston, who found it very distasteful.

Although our attorney advised us to take action with a libel suit, we believe that it's this type of negative energy that brings the gay community down.

We hope the women who wrote this letter are responsible enough to come forward with an apology.

Tequila Sunrise

CLARIFICATION

In last week's GCN, there was a news item concerning the arrest of a man in Gilchrist's Department Store for unnatural acts and assaulting a police officer. The police officer, who was also the "victim" of the "unnatural acts," was a special police officer, i.e. a private guard employed by the department store, and not an officer of the Boston Police Department.

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speaking out

By Karen Lindsey

(The following article is reprinted courtesy of the author and Sojourner, the Boston feminist monthly newspaper. Karen Lindsey asked GCN to include the following paragraph along with the article:

I wrote this article against a deadline, and on rereading it in Sojourner realized I was uncomfortable with two of the things I said... Rather than edit them out of this reprint, which might seem dishonest to readers who'd seen the original, I'd simply mention what they are beforehand. Though I do feel affronted by the idea of men in drag (or not in drag, for that matter) speaking for any women, I'm not certain that as a straight woman I have any more right to speak for lesbians. Secondly, the comparison of drag queens to rapists and wife beaters is clearly exaggerated, as the earlier comparison to verbal sexual harassment is not.)

In August, a group of gay men called "Fort Hill Faggots for Freedom" went into Sporters, a gay male bar, dressed in full drag, and were promptly kicked out. According to them, Sporters and other gay bars discriminate against lesbians, transvestites, and others who don't conform to a respectably straight male image.

If the bars discriminate against lesbians, any action protesting this should be taken (or at least led) by lesbians, with whatever degree of male support they want — it shouldn't be led by a bunch of men dressed up as women.

If they're discriminating against transvestites they have no right to do so in a public business.

But almost lost in the whole discussion in successive issues of *Gay Community News* is the oppressiveness of drag itself. (The notable exception was a brief, politically aware column by Darius Dappetree.) In fact, David Holland in a piece insultingly titled "The Politics of Dress," has the arrogance to equate the "struggle" of transvestites with feminism, and to assert that if "jeans are to be categorized as male apparel, and... women intend to smash that image by wearing them, so, conversely, men must attempt to kill the same sacred cow of dress. This is the focus of drag statements today."

So oppressive is the system under which we live that it becomes for some of us an unconscious assumption that what the system says is bad must of necessity be good. And so many feminists are hesitant to attack the segment of the gay male subculture that society most despises. Many of us — feminists and leftists — tend to feel guilty over the fear and horror we experience over drag queens, attributing our emotions to our own inherent bigotry, and demanding of ourselves that we be more tolerant. Yet I wonder how far that commitment to tolerance would go if I, for example, suddenly decided to smear my face with burnt cork and walk around mimicking black speech patterns? (And if it's tiresome to keep reading comparisons between black and women's oppression, it's even more tiresome to keep writing them. Unfortunately, until we all learn to understand, and take seriously, the depth of women's oppression, we will have to continue to measure it by the more familiar yardstick of black oppression.)

It is, in reality, the drag queens who are indulging in bigotry. Drag is a blatant mockery of women, as genuine a manifestation of misogyny as the straight male practice of sexual harassment.

This is a touchy area, because it involves exploring the very real strain of

misogyny that has always been part of the gay male world — and we are legitimately hesitant to feed the oppressive psychiatric myth that gay men become gay because they are maladjusted and hate women. But if we understand the dynamics of male supremacy, we realize that misogyny is not the least a "maladjustment" — it is an essential component of social manhood. Once we face the fact that all men hate us to some degree at least, we see the misogyny of the gay male culture in its proper context. It is a part not of their homosexuality but of their manhood itself. Thus while many straight men display their hostility overtly by sexual harassment, many gay men display their hostility most overtly by sexual mockery. (And if there is an element of self-hate, or gay-self-hate in this as well, that too can be traced to misogyny — the mockery of the "female" component in themselves.)

Some men, of course, are authentically trying to fashion androgynous modes of dress that neither reinforce the "virility" of traditional male clothing nor ape traditional women's clothing. A weaver who is a friend of mine works with tunics — loose, free, comfortable, and attractive — which challenge stereotypical male clothing but do not look especially "feminine." And there's also the fact that many "unisex" styles — long hair, earrings — were until recently considered exclusively female.

But when men dress in spike heels, rhinestones, sheer stockings, and evening gowns fitted with bust-darts, there is no room for doubt — or for tolerance.

And when men like Holland compare men in drag with women in jeans, they compound their oppressiveness. First of all, it is *men* who determine what is fit apparel for men and women, reserving to themselves what is functional and assigning to women styles that conform to male fantasy and power needs. Hence, women in "men's" clothes are simply reclaiming the right to determine for themselves what they will wear — denying the right of the oppressor to define them. (In any case, "passing" has always been a tool of the oppressed to grab some of what the oppressor has maintained for himself.) And even if women wore jeans to mock men (which is clearly not the case), the mockery of the oppressed is wholly different in both cause and effect from that of the oppressor, since it is not subsidized by power. The factor of power makes complementary actions an illusion.

In fact, the entire argument for "political drag" ignores — or deliberately negates — the very basic relationship of power and oppression. It rests on the "male-liberation" theory that it isn't men who oppress women but roles that oppress men and women. The fact is that men *do* oppress women, and the role they are "forced" into is the role of the privilege, or the oppression, of power. A man who refuses to understand this is maintaining his privilege and is hence our enemy.

I'm sorry for the sufferings of the drag queen. I'm sorry for the sufferings of the black pimp and the working class rapist and the Jewish wife beater. I'm sorry for any oppressed man who reacts to his oppression not by fighting his oppressor but by attacking women.

But I'm more sorry for the women he hurts. If women understand our own oppression, we won't allow compassion to prevent us from fighting our enemies. We can work with, or at least support, men who acknowledge their oppressiveness and sincerely work against it. But the men who continue to oppress us — even to the extent of using our own movement to justify it — are our enemies, and we must fight them.

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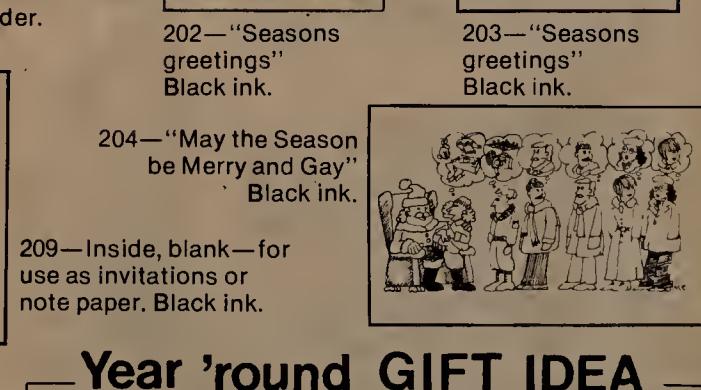
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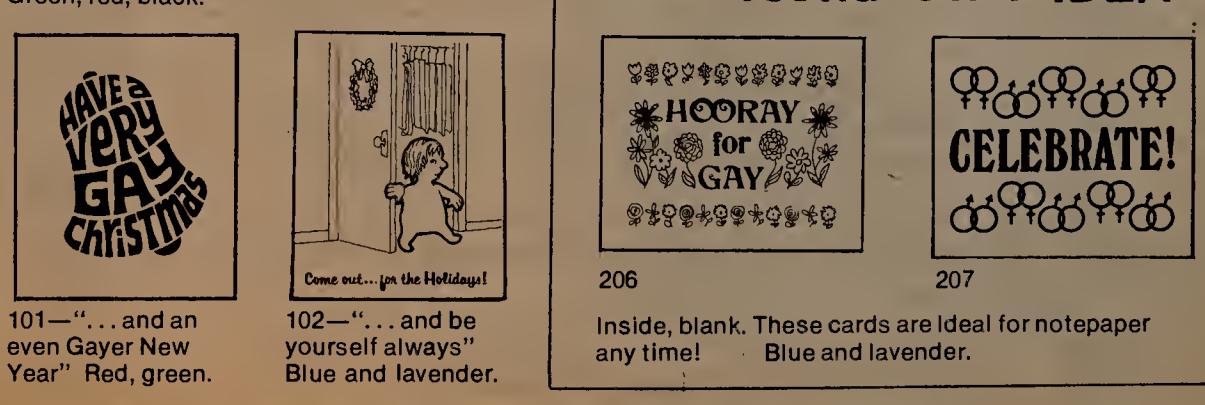


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Harry Reems, Legal Target

(Continued from page 3)

unable to work. For the last two or three years, he has been making movies in Europe. As a convicted felon, his passport has been revoked. Reems feels that any credibility he has earned as an actor has been destroyed by this case and that he has become an embarrassment to the motion picture industry.

Boston Benefit

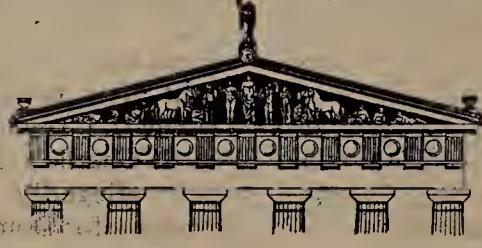
A benefit for the Harry Reems Legal Defense Fund will be held on Thursday night, Nov. 18, at Together on Boylston St. in Boston. Along with Reems and his attorney, Alan Dershowitz, actor Richard Dreyfuss of *Jaws* and *Inserts*, state representative Barney Frank, and local film distributor George Mansour will appear. Contributions, which are tax deductible, can be sent to the Harry Reems Legal Defense Fund, Suite 1030, 120 East 56th St., New York, NY 10022.

Reems will also be speaking at the Harvard Law Forum on Dec. 8.

Implications

"It's a First Amendment case, it's a civil liberties case, and it's an important political case," benefit organizer, author, and *Fag Rag* collective member John Mitzel told GCN. "What's important for gay people and for the gay press is that this case is the first one in which the Justice Department is using conspiracy laws in conjunction with the Burger Court's Miller decision on obscenity to indict, try, and convict progressive ideas or lifestyle dissenters. And it appears that they're especially after any kinds of lifestyles of sexuality that differ from the majority of Americans."

"If the Reems conviction is allowed to stand," Mitzel asserted, "the writer of any piece that appears in a gay magazine or newspaper can be indicted and tried as part of a national conspiracy if anything in that publication is judged obscene in any community in America."



Gay Gains at Public Health Meeting

MIAMI BEACH, FL — With Boston's Gay Health Collective taking a leading role, a week of consciousness-raising took place at the American Public Health Association's (APHA) annual meeting in Miami Beach, Oct. 17-21. Last year APHA adopted a resolution condemning discrimination against gay people in employment, education, and health services. The organization also called for "all health agencies . . . to provide education regarding the adverse reactions of homophobia on the health of the people and regarding ways for health workers to respond better to the needs of patients with homosexual orientation."

At this year's conference, the Gay Caucus sponsored scientific sessions on: Anal Warts in a Gay Male Population of New York City (Gary Carr & Daniel C. William, M.D.); Innovative VD Casefinding, Treatment & Education for a Los Angeles Gay Male Population (Hernan Merino & Jeff Richards); Gay Issues in Mental Health (including John C. Lawrence of Homophile Community Health Services of Boston); and Lesbian Health Issues (with Judi Stein of Cambridge's Women's Community Health, Inc., E. Carolyn Innes of Gay

Nurses Alliance & Joan Waitkevitz, M.D. of St. Mark's Clinic in NYC).

The Gay Public Health Workers' exhibit at the convention depicted the causes of and ways to eradicate homophobia — "an unnecessary health hazard." The group has chosen as the coming year's project the writing of guidelines for helping non-gay health services to be responsive to the health needs of gay people.

Dr. Sandy Reder of the Gay Health Collective of Boston was chosen coordinator of the guidelines task force. The Gay Health Collective of Boston is assuming the responsibility for facilitating the project and writing the introductory section on homophobia.

Ron Vachon, PA, coordinator of the Gay Health Collective of Boston, was also chosen to serve on the coordinating committee as coordinator of fundraising. Thomas Nylund, administrator of the Fenway Community Health Center, also participated in the activities of the annual meeting.

The Gay Health Collective of Boston invites all interested gay people willing to commit lots of time and energy to join them in the guidelines project. Call Ron Vachon at 267-7573.

Reems Talks

By Bill Callahan

Harry Reems is 29 and comes from New York State. His original name is Herbert Streicher. He is very articulate about his attitudes and his own case. We were able to talk to Reems during his recent one-day visit to Boston before he flew to Detroit for a series of public appearances there.

BC: Harry, tell us a little about your background.

HR: I'm 29. I attended the University of Pittsburgh for a while, quit there. I joined the Marines, didn't like that either and quit. I moved to the East Village, and began taking courses in speech in 1967. My teacher was doing a production of *Coriolanus*, and gave me a part. I did about 30 plays off-off-Broadway. Then I was involved with Cafe La Mama, and then the National Shakespeare Company.

BC: When did you start doing skin flicks?

HR: I started doing them (I call them sexual gymnastics) to supplement my income during that time. I also did it from curiosity. I was relatively innocent at the time, and it was like therapy for me. Doing sex films really is like therapy. It takes away all facades to encounter a group of naked people whom you've never met and have sexual experiences. I did, I don't know, about 30 to 50 porno films.

BC: During the news conference, you mentioned feeling a lot of frustration in making the movies. Would you elaborate on that?

HR: After two or three years, I felt a lot of creative frustration. The sex was wonderful, but it was stifling for my artistic creativity.

That's one good thing that's come out of this case. I was converted into a political animal. I never particularly sought publicity. Now I'm desperate for media exposure. It has been a good

opportunity to expose what's up here (pointing to his head) for a change.

BC: What kind of movies have you been doing in Europe?

HR: Comedies basically. My last picture was with Vincent Gardenia. It's called *Honeymoon for Three*. I play a gay man in it. I really enjoy doing burlesque and slapstick comedy.

BC: It seems that the Boston Defense Fund is a heavily gay organization. Is that true of the other local organizations?

HR: John Mitzel is responsible for organizing the group and the activities here in Boston. We have groups in thirty major cities in the US. The most receptive groups have been the art community, because they have a lot to lose if this precedent is upheld, civil liberties groups, and the gay community.

I think that's because we're both talking about suppressed attitudes, moral attitudes about sex. I've been appearing at gay rights groups and rallies for a number of years, particularly in New York. I feel very strongly about it, although that's not my inclination. Sex should not be repressed, it should be celebrated. The repression is the real obscenity in this country.

Parrish's main thrust was the feelings of the clergy, some doctors, and others that fellatio is pathological, and that any sex outside of marriage and not in the missionary position is perverse. I think it's shocking that this type of thing goes on in federal courts.

BC: What do you think your chances of being acquitted are?

HR: Alan [Dershowitz] feels we have a good chance of vindication at the Supreme Court. However the present court has a very low priority on obscenity cases. There is a case before the court now to determine retroactivity. This may throw my case back to Memphis, and we may have to start all over. But I'm very optimistic that I'll be vindicated.

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VOL. XXXII No. 1 **EBONY** NOVEMBER 1976
Incorporating Black World Magazine

"People wonder what becomes of rapists, arsonists, armed robbers etc. once they go to prison. It's simple. Most of them become homosexuals. As a result, the majority (some 60 percent) of prisoners in the nation's penal institutions are latent or overt homosexuals. I am speaking of the hard-core criminals who cause most of the problems in correctional institutions, who, because they have never been able to sublimate their abnormal sexual desires, continuously foment prison riots, rape fellow prisoners, and kill guards and fellow inmates..."

"It may come as a surprise to many to learn that the No. 1 cause of murder in prison is not gambling, as one often reads, but homosexual involvement. This is because practicing homosexuals are basically promiscuous. They are rarely interested in only one partner but are constantly in pursuit of new homosexual relationships and conquests. This frequently leads to love triangles and jealousies that end in violence and murder... If prior to going to prison he [the prisoner] was solidly grounded in his masculine identity, even prolonged sexual deprivation will not make him into a homosexual. Most likely, he will sublimate his sex drive by working hard, studying hard, exercising hard until released from prison without experiencing or causing any undue problems. Chances are, he will never commit another crime and return to prison. Unfortunately, this type of prisoner is in the minority."

"As quiet as it has been kept, sexual maladjustment among inmates is by no means a one-way street. On the other side of the coin, we find a similarly disproportionate high incidence of homosexuality — both latent and active — among the nation's prisons' staffs. In fact, this is not only true for the lower echelon but reaches all the way up to the state administrative levels. We can say that, like police work and related occupations, the field of corrections attracts a great many people with sadistic and otherwise perverted inclinations. One of the reasons

for this, of course, is that correctional institutions lend themselves to this type of behavior because they are largely male-oriented. In any event, in recent years we have actually observed an even heavier influx of homosexuals into the staffs of correctional institutions than in earlier years. I attribute this largely to the gay liberation movement which has become so prevalent in this country..."

"There have been numerous situations in which ranking corrections officials — both on the juvenile and adult levels — have been caught in compromising situations with inmates. I recall one case in particular in Illinois, where one high-ranking juvenile corrections official was caught in a compromising position with a 14-year-old boy. The official was dismissed, but today he is back on a similar job with another youth agency."

"The same problem of sexual involvement of prison staffers with inmates is plaguing the nation's women prisons, most of which are veritable bastions of openly conducted lesbianism. It is not at all uncommon for a woman guard to fall in love with one of her charges. In fact, I recall one incident in which a woman correctional officer put up the bond money to affect the release of her female lover, then "eloped" with her and joined her in a life of crime. In yet another incident, a female corrections officer was caught cohabitating with a male inmate. She was summarily dismissed. Later, under questioning, the inmate admitted that the two had been lovers for a long time..."

"It is my firm conviction that a carefully selected, efficient, compassionate and responsible prison staff coupled with constructive educational, vocational, recreational and character-strengthening programs aimed at restoring the shattered self-image of the inmates will go a long way toward ending the Sodoms and Gomorrahs which currently characterize so many of the nation's correctional institutions."

— From an article "How to End Sex Problems in our Prisons" in the November issue of Ebony Magazine. The article was written by Winston E. Moore, Executive Director of the Cook County (Illinois) Department of Corrections.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

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"Hoping for a big re-election victory New York assemblyman Mark Alan Siegel campaigns all over his Manhattan constituency: subway stops, supermarkets, the League of Women Voters and St. Ignatius Loyola Church. Now it is 11 p.m. and the 31-year-old Democrat starts a less predictable part of his campaign: a tour of homosexual bars.

"Dressed in a vested pin-striped suit, Mr. Siegel walks into "Uncle Charlie's South" with three homosexual rights activists to introduce him: As a jukebox blasts rock music in the background, he shakes hands and passes out leaflets to the large, casually dressed crowd. 'You mean you campaign in a gay bar?' asks an impressed — but astonished — young man in a black sweater. 'Sure, why not?' replies the candidate.

"Mr. Siegel, a corporation lawyer turned politician, visits five other homosexual bars in his affluent East Side territory before calling it a night at 1 a.m. 'I think gays are an important part of my constituency,' says the stocky liberal who has long stressed human-rights issues in general.

"Dozens of politicians are making similar pitches these days. 'Virtually every politician who seeks any measure of success in San Francisco tries to court the gay community,' says Corey Busch, press secretary to the city's Mayor George R. Moscone. And Texas State Representative Ronald Waters adds, 'I figure I couldn't have been re-elected last time (1974) without gay support...'"

— From a front-page article headlined "The New Constituency: Political Candidates Seek Out Gay Votes" by Roger Riklefs in the Oct. 20 issue of the Wall Street Journal.

the village VOICE

"If criminal trials were to be judged as theatrical events (and why shouldn't they, with everyone performing to the jury?), I'd give the Bronfman case, playing in White Plains, a bad review. So far, the drama is devoid of suspense action, pathos, heroes, heroines, and villains. The pacing is molasses slow — the judge has nodded off on more than one occasion — and what promised to

be the trial of the year is playing to a virtually empty house.

"Undoubtedly, the program will pick up once the defense presents its case. Then the issue of homosexuality goes on trial, and we may have the most spectacular case since Oscar Wilde. The lawyer for Mel Patrick Lynch is claiming that the kidnapping was a hoax, perpetrated by young Bronfman to extort a couple of million from his father; that Bronfman, Lynch, and Dominic Byrne (the other alleged kidnapper) are gay; and that Bronfman and Lynch were lovers.

"Now I'm the last to comment on the blindness of love or the attraction of opposites, but if Lynch had anything to offer Bronfman, that anything isn't showing in court. Lynch sits silently, his leg in a cast (he fell from a third-floor hospital window). He looks shriveled, disconsolate, much older than his 39 years. He is not your *After Dark* consumer.

"Dominic Byrne is the far more interesting of the two: a dark Irishman with a handlebar mustache, he cruises the courtroom, his eyes shining every time a good-looking man appears (it doesn't happen too often). Last year, right after Bronfman was ostensibly rescued, I spent a few evenings at Uncle Charlie's South where the three men allegedly hung out. Forget allegedly for Dominic Byrne. He was a fixture there. Nightly, he'd greet customers from his stool near the door with "how are ya, darlin", how's every little thing," while playfully grabbing the visitor's crotch. He was generous with the limo service which he owned. If the Charlie's gang was off to a party in Queens, Byrne would drive them. If a guy was especially cute, he'd get the service, plus a few "treat" drinks (Byrne loved his liquor but had leveled off some after having smashed up a limo in the spring of '75).

"The Saturday before the kidnapping, Byrne drove a few of his crew to the gay section of Jacob Riis Park. One of the kids in the party claims Byrne was his usual jovial self, checking out the buns on the beach and talking about how he'd like to see *The Wiz*. Four days after his arrest, Byrne called Robert Sloate, the owner of Uncle Charlie's, to apologize for the embarrassment he might have caused the club. Sloate has since confirmed that Byrne frequented his bar."

— From Arthur Bell's description of the Bronfman kidnapping trial in his "Bell Tells" column in a recent Village Voice.

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new york revelations

By Tony Russo

NEW YORK — Perhaps the most exciting event of the fall is the Gay Academic Union (GAU) Conference. This year, the fourth annual conference will be held at Columbia University during Thanksgiving weekend. Chairing the conference will be lesbian feminist activist Louise Crawford.

The highlight of the conference is always the Keynote Sessions. This year those speaking at the sessions are: Jean O'Leary, Co-Executive Director of the National Gay Task Force; Stephen Morin, founder of the Association of Gay Psychologists; and Rita Mae Brown, writer and poet. Other participants during the three-day conference will include: Sidney Abbott, Eric Bentley, Kate Millett, Rosemary Poulos, C.A. Tripp, George Whitmore, and Ian Young.

As with the three previous con-

THE GAY ACADEMIC UNION-FOURTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

GAU 4

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY · THANKSGIVING WEEKEND · NOVEMBER 26-28, 1976

ferences, the panels and workshops will include a large range of topics. Some of the scheduled topics are: Homosexuality and Aging, Coming Out, Mixed Consciousness-Raising Groups, Transsexualism, The Gay Novel, Homosexuality and the Visual Arts, Gay Teachers of Children and Adolescents, Lesbian and Gay

Therapists, Legal Issues for Homosexuals, Establishing Gay Courses, Homosexuality and the Authoritarian Personality, Issues about Gay Adolescents, Homosexuals and the Holocaust, a Dissertation Support Workshop, and a Media Workshop.

During the conference poetry readings, concerts, a dance and dinner

will be held in addition to the over 40 paper sessions and workshops. There will also be a room for the display and sale of books, pamphlets and other items.

Registration for the entire three days will be \$20 for non-GAU members, \$15 for GAU members, and \$5 for students and unemployed persons. The conference will be held at Ferris Booth Hall (116th Street and Broadway) and registration will begin at 9 a.m. on Friday, Nov. 26.

The Glines has opened a one act comedy by Graham Jackson entitled *Marriage A La Mode*. The play concerns a married heterosexual couple who are both planning to run away with a lover of their own sex. The play is scheduled to run until Nov. 14. The Glines is located at 260 West Broadway. For more information call: 800-223-6765.

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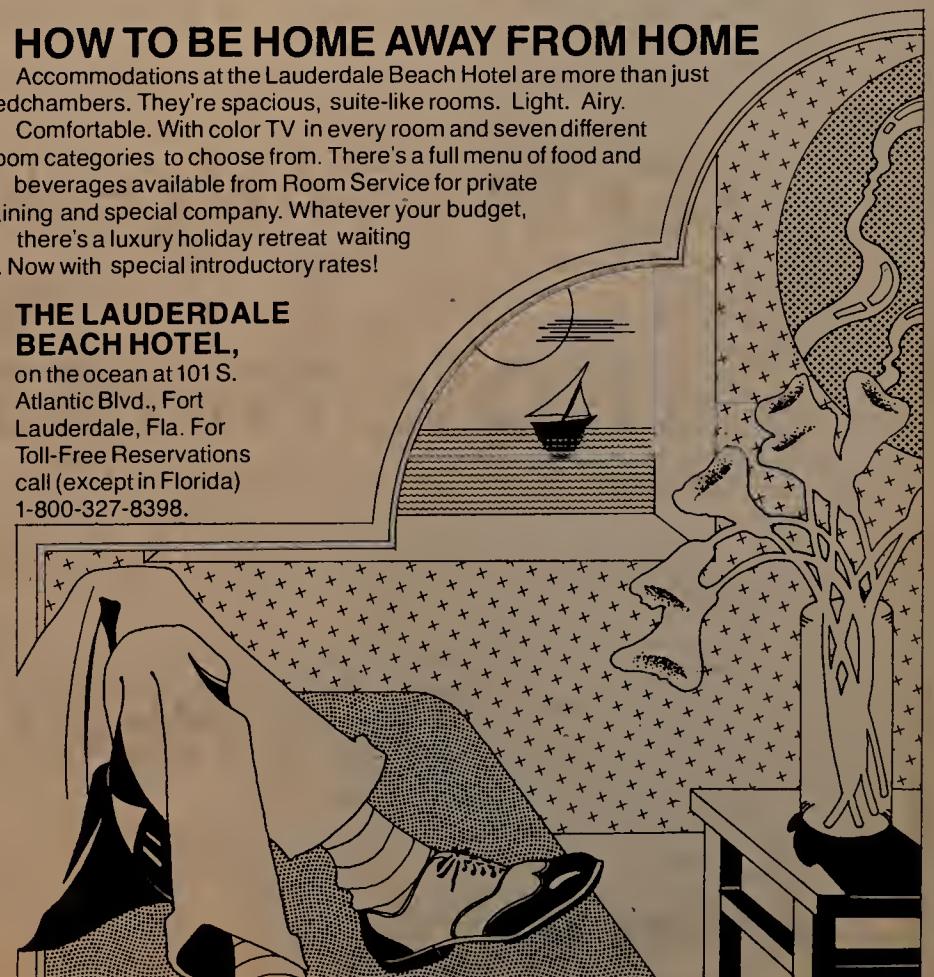
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GAITY: a male burlesque house::Times Square:

By Robert Chesley

Tuesday night::Twenty-five men sit and stare at the naked dancing boys::I wonder how many of the men in the audience have erections::I don't::But then I've lost interest in porn since coming out::And tastes in porn are quirky anyway::For instance, I'm not sure that a live show would have turned me on even in my closeted days::Of course in my closeted days I didn't give live porn a chance::But somehow I suspect that pictures and words were more my style::Maybe because they allow more freedom to fantasize than the reality of something that is actually happening::And fantasy and reality are separate experiences::At least for me::Maybe some of the guys looking at the Gaiety boys can kick themselves over into fantasy somehow::But for me it is purest reality::Why I can even smell the dancers' sweaty crotches::That's how close I am sitting:

I guess I am square at heart because as I watch it I think about it::And I enjoy the show on the aesthetic level::There are flashes of beauty::Most of the boys are good dancers::A few of them are really good::Two of them are stunning dancers::Then there are the colored lights::The cheap spangly blue and gold curtains::The rich, embracing, throbbing, gibbering disco::And yes the smells:

One at a time::With pauses in between while whoever is running things botches the record changes and the lights and while the audience sits in darkness listening to the boys chat and joke backstage::Each boy dances to two or three songs::Mostly the boys start fully clothed and end up naked::Mostly they prance, jiggle and gesture suggestively as they strip::Some address individual members of the audience with their eyes or with particular gestures or sometimes by speaking to them::Some get down and sort of hump the floor::Some of the kids have thought of some pretty imaginative things to do with their belts or with their underpants or with a cigarette:

Ron struts around and smiles good-naturedly but at the end of his number tells the audience You all need Geritol::Jimmy executes excellent kicks, splits, flips and handstands and actually steps out over one member of the audience to place one foot on the seat beyond him while that member of the audience looks up at Jimmy's swinging member and grins with embarrassment or maybe delight though I know I'd be embarrassed::Steve doesn't dance much but he does flop his horselike cock around an awful lot and even manages to flagellate his own buttocks with it, and I gather that he is a success offstage as he brags that he makes an extra hundred every day, but we'll get to that little matter later::Kali moves like a panther::Billy looks somber and self-conscious and when he doesn't get applause for his first number someone whispers in the dark from backstage Take off your pants, and then for some reason someone maybe Billy himself whispers Brush your teeth, and for his second number some of the boys come around to the side of the audience and act as a claque::Later I find out that this is one of Billy's first nights and during the course of the week his number improves::Gary is waifish and appealing and doesn't take off his pants at all at least tonight::And last of all is Bob but I am not going to describe him because I know him a little and my reaction to his dancing is sort of personal, but one thing I can tell you is that he is obviously a good dancer:

And after his two numbers Bob pulls back the curtain at the back of the stage and the porno flick resumes while at least some of the dancing boys go out to the lobby to make themselves available:

:: :: ::

A sign in the dressing room says:

House Rules

1. No Hustling in Theater!!
2. No Props Onstage without Permission of Management
3. No Pot Smoking in Theater
4. Be on Time, Always, for Show
5. Keep Dressing Room Clean

Thank You,

—The Management

Have a Nice Week, Mary!!

Except that some joker has crossed out the "Be" in item number four and replaced it with "Come":

Ron says he usually takes his customers home::But quickies are another matter and I've heard that there is a back room at the Gaiety::Perhaps a quick five dollars for a blow job::Perhaps twenty dollars for peeing in the customer's mouth::In the theater::And of course it is for the money that these boys are here and the hustling can add a lot to their weekly one-hundred-dollar salary:

Some of the boys stand around talking and joking in Spanish and in English with each other and with the soft-spoken young woman who owns and runs the business and who seems to have a headache:

I'm trying to gain weight:

You should take some vitamins::There are vitamins to get you fat::

I get you some tomorrow::And they really work::I was hundred twenty-five pounds::I'm now hundred thirty-five since I'm taking them:

You come to my place and I'll cook you rice and beans every day::You'll get fat:

And the kid whose name is not really Ron tells me about his life:

He says You know I have a very sad life:

And by this I think he doesn't so much mean that he is sad as he means that his life is hard and that his story is sad::For now he does not seem to be a sad person::He sees himself as a comedian and he jokes around a lot::He has a gentle laugh:

He left Puerto Rico and his family when he was thirteen and now he is twenty and he has not had any contact with his family since he left::He says For me they're all dead::He says he is very serious about studying modern dance::He enjoys dancing at the Gaiety but does not really enjoy hustling::He tells me When it hurts I charge more, which is my behind, sometimes it can hurt::He is afraid of being busted by the police and so he is careful not to touch his customers or to let them touch him while he is dancing::And he likes to be high on grass when he is dancing though tonight he was just a little drunk instead which isn't as good:

The guy whose name is not really Mark tells me about his life::About coming out of the closet in high school in St. Louis and being thought crazy by his friends::About the oppression of Gay people::And about his marriage and divorce and about how he is putting himself through haircutting school and supporting his child by hustling:

The kid whose name is not really Billy talks about playing his guitar and about the songs he writes::He talks about his Greek heritage and the origins of Greek theater in phallic rituals::He talks about macrobiotics::He talks about being turned on by the female stripper in the establishment upstairs where he went to learn some tricks::He loves working at the Gaiety but he doesn't hustle because he's straight:

And the kid whose name is not really Gary tells me about his life::But this kid really is sad and the story he so shyly tells so rapidly becomes so personal and so painful that I feel like a heel and know that I couldn't possibly turn around and use it for this article::Sorry:

:: :: ::

And afterwards I feel I must consider the Gaiety from a moral point of view::To make a political judgment::But I can't::Oh I could sneak by::I could just present the facts or I could state or imply that it is all just terrible::And either way who would challenge me::But I challenge myself::So for days I am struggling to define just what it is that is wrong about the Gaiety::What is wrong about the open sale of human flesh, whether just the sight of it for a turn on or the hustling::It should have been disgusting::But it wasn't::It was just real::It was just the way things are::And once I got to know the place it was even a rather endearing little enterprise:

But I do believe in right and wrong::Well then I ask myself what things do I find wrong that are like what happens at the Gaiety and why do I find them wrong::And I think of those raunchy ads in some publications which feature pictures of bikinis which can scarcely contain what must be enormous genitalia and pictures of erected cocks and ads for inflatable plastic bed partners and various other toys::Yeah those are disgusting::Those are dirty::Why that's why I refuse to write for or buy certain publications::It is morally wrong after all:

Then why doesn't the reality of the Gaiety disgust me I ask::The open sale of human flesh::The smells::The dirt:

And suddenly I see a parallel as I sit thinking about this in a Park Avenue office Thursday morning::Suddenly I see a parallel as I sit doing a long mindless papershuffling job and my mind whirrs::Do you see the parallel I ask:

Do you remember my first paragraph::Porn for me was best in pictures or in words but live porn was not good at all because the pictures and words allowed me to fantasize::And it is pictures and words which I find I can easily condemn on moral grounds and or on political grounds::On which I feel free to pass judgment::But confronted with the human reality of the Gaiety, the sweetnatured kids doing it for money, the customers sad and ashamed or maybe just enjoying what they see and do, the woman who runs the business running her business in a businesslike way, my ability to moralize falls away from me as surely as my ability to fantasize::And I wonder if moralizing is not just another form of fantasizing::Fantasizing about how terrible something must be:

To what extent do we must we fantasize about that which we judge as wrong I ask::To what extent do we must we cut ourselves off from the reality of a human situation to make a moral decision about it I ask::And when we get wrapped up in politics which at least for me is trying to do something in the real world about what is right and what is wrong, what then is the relation of fantasy to politics I ask:

I ask and I don't know the answers::And I want to know the answers because I care about morality::As I said I believe in right and wrong::And I want to know the answers because I function politically which means I make moral decisions about others:

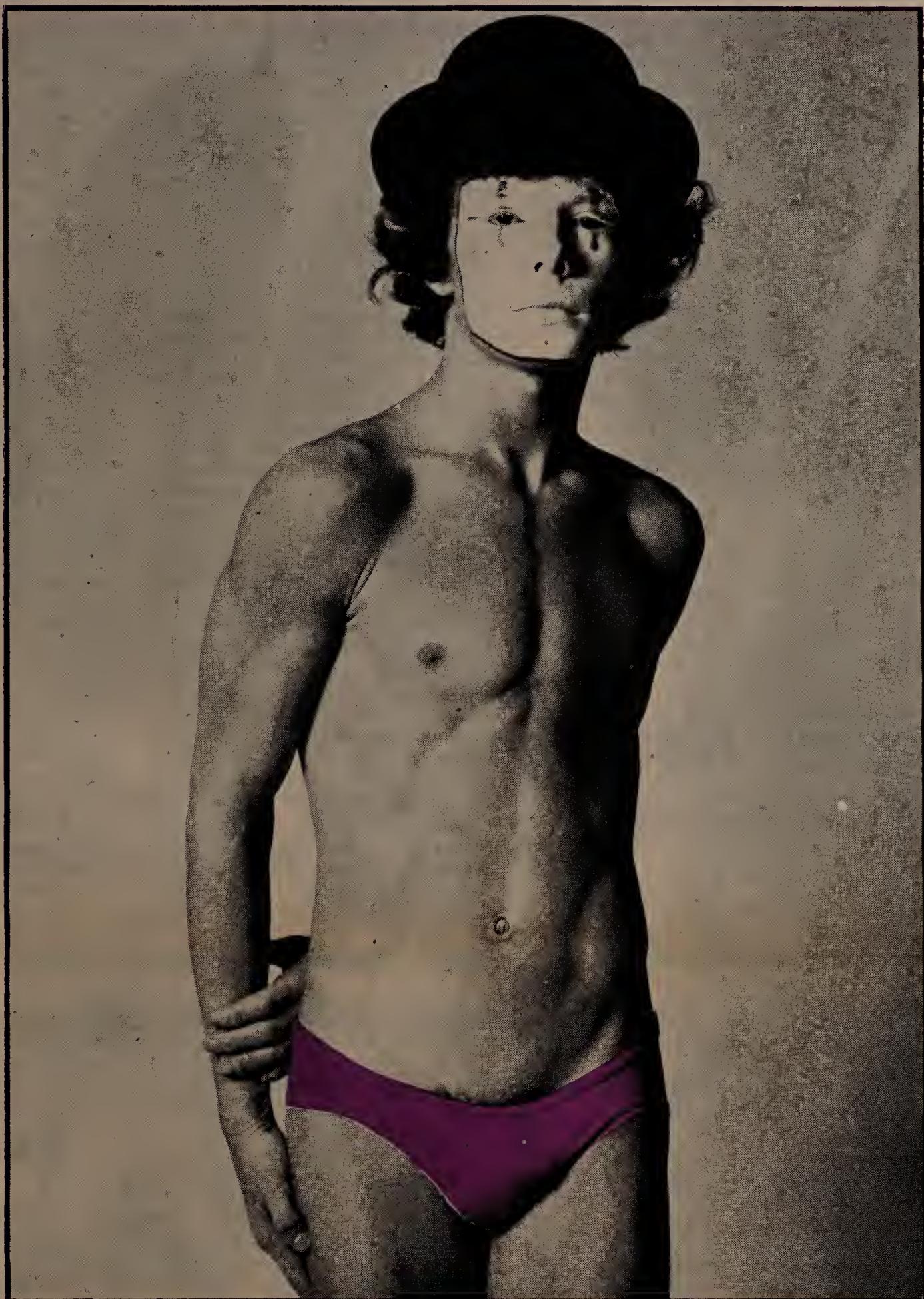


Photo by Don C. Hanover, III

Of course you will decide for yourself about the Gaiety:

Oh I have reached some decisions and here they are:

One thing which is wrong about something which is wrong is that someone gets hurt by it::And who is being hurt by the Gaiety I wonder:

Is it the kids earning money by the sale of their bodies::I don't know::They don't seem to be hurt by what they are doing::But what does it mean to be a prostitute and at such an early age::Unless you know really know and know for sure and maybe know yourself you will have to fantasize your answer::What I think is that these kids are probably more hurt in more ways just by being poor in America:

Is it the customers and if so how::Yes at worst it would or might be nicer for them if they could integrate their sexual acts with their lives as people on other levels::Yes at worst fantasy and objectification of the sexual partner are solitary and lonely occupations when sex can be so much more meaningful::In this case then the customers are indeed the victims of something wrong::And what is wrong may be and perhaps must be our old enemy the attitudes of heterosexist society about homosexuality or maybe just about sex in general and the guilt which these attitudes of society produce::And as the customers have internalized these attitudes perhaps they are their own victims and will remain so until they can be liberated from their self-oppression::But they are not being victimized by the Gaiety as such or by the kids who hustle there:

And then again at best maybe there's nothing wrong at all for some men in going to the Gaiety and fantasizing and getting a hard-on and then maybe paying for sex::Maybe it can be done for fun::I'm sorry but I just can't honestly say that every member of that audience looked oppressed::Some were just enjoying it:

Friday night::Sixty-five men sit and stare at the naked dancing boys::Tonight the audience is mostly over forty years old::And they do not make a lively audience::They mostly just sit::And although there are a few shouts to the boys sometimes, Come on, or Right, these shouts are at half-energy and there is no sense of fun tonight.

Things are slicker tonight::There is less bumbling around between numbers::There is an effort for quality and occasionally it works::At times it pulls together::At times it is a good show:

Ron does a number with torches which he strokes along his body and through which he swings his cock which gets him applause and the voice over the mike says A Fancy way to warm up, a hot rod::Gary is second and quite unexpectedly I feel hurt to see him up there and in my head I hear his gentle-sad voice as I watch him taking off his pants this time though keeping his cupped hands near his crotch as though he would cover it as indeed he does when he comes offstage into the dressing room, and as he dances he tries to smile and then he must slip away as a grinning customer with white hair reaches out to stroke his supple and youthful body::Kali dances with peacock feathers this time and he for one doesn't slip away when a customer strokes him::Billy gets his pants off during his first number this time and his body is like a Late Gothic nude with a skinny sunken chest and a protruding belly::Mark stumbles over his trousers as he pulls them off and it occurs to me that male strippers face a problem here which female strippers don't have as it is difficult to keep on dancing enticingly while pulling trousers over your feet::Kevin starts out in cutoff shorts with suspenders which are unnecessary as the shorts sure aren't about to fall off by themselves although it isn't long before they're off anyway and Kevin is being awfully coy with a green hanky::Etcetera:

Custody Action for Lesbian Mothers

By Tommi Avicoli

The following interview was conducted with Rosalie Davies and Mickie of Custody Action for Lesbian Mothers (CALM) in Philadelphia. For almost two years now, CALM has been helping lesbian mothers deal with court procedures, and the hassles of the legal system as they try to hold onto their children. CALM also offers psychological support for these women.

Tommi: How did CALM start?

Rosalie: Calm started when I lost my children in court. I was very angry. I also realized during the course of preparing for the case that the case law was 95% against us being mothers and so I did two things — I started CALM, and I went to law school.

Tommi: What exactly happened in your particular case?

Rosalie: My husband was trying to take them (the children) away. Which is what the issue was. And it was considered better not to have a hearing. The judge wasn't going to give me the children, that was clear. If we had a hearing he probably would've declared me an unfit

mother The other side brought in every newspaper article that was ever written about me . . . So the judge gave me two weeks a year in the summer and one week at Christmas, which is very small visitation. It had to take place in M_____ where my parents live so that the children didn't have to come down . . . to an immoral atmosphere.

Tommi: What is CALM set up to do?

Rosalie: It's set up . . . to educate lawyers. A mother comes to us and says her husband is going to sue her for child custody. If we determine that she has got to go to court, that she can't bargain out of court . . . then we find a lawyer for free. We

think it's very important that lawyers do our cases for free because the underlying issue is a constitutional one. So every case is potentially a case going to the Supreme Court. We feel that if a lawyer doesn't think that there's such an incredible invasion of civil liberties going on in these cases that he or she would be willing to do that case for free, then we're not interested in the lawyer

It's terribly important for us to keep the children for the mother right now. First of all for the children . . . but also for the mother's sanity We'll do anything: we'll play the right games in court, we'll bargain out of court, we'll do anything except have her deny that she's a lesbian.

Tommi: What about psychological support?

Rosalie: What we do is go with the mother to the attorney initially and then we go with her — depending on whether the attorney's a woman and on the distance really. We'll go with her every time. Then we go to court. The only reason that's really important is that frequently his family is against her; and he comes into court with maybe a new wife, and a new child, a new nuclear family, to bring to the judge.

She can't bring her lover into court. We like to keep the profile of the lover very low. We don't want the judge to really deal with a lesbian nuclear family. We've discovered that it's a very traumatic time if the woman is involved in a relationship — a very traumatic time for the relationship. The lover essentially goes on trial, too. It's very hard for her 'cause she can't go into court and be supportive which is a natural thing to want to do. And it's very hard for the mother 'cause

she's also aware that it's this relationship that's losing her her children. And we've ended up giving a lot of counseling to mothers as well.

Mickie: You can tell that the chief concern of CALM is not political. The chief concern is to help the mother get her children or keep her children or have adequate visitation.

Tommi: So what do you do when you go into court?

Rosalie: We have to have an expert witness that will present all the literature that's positive for lesbian mothers. Or all of the new psychiatric thinking. And we try and get another expert witness who talks about this mother and this child and how she's a stable person and that she's giving love to the child and they have an ongoing relationship and stuff like that.

Also, it's trying to overcome the judge's prejudices. They think that it's gonna fuck up the children and then they think that they're (the lesbian couple) gonna make love in front of the children and then they're absolutely convinced that they'll raise the children to be homosexuals.

Mickie: One of the chief things that CALM does, then, is to educate attorneys — there are very few attorneys who know anything about lesbian mother cases.

Tommi: What happens if the woman denies she's a lesbian in court?

Rosalie: A typical example is a woman who . . . went to a regular attorney who took her into court. She was living with her lover at the time; he took her into court saying this wasn't her lover, it was just a friendship. Which means then you are barred from ever saying that wasn't true because then you've perjured yourself. The judge said that

(Continued on page 15)

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books

Love That Transcends Time

Lawrence J. Quirk is well-published reviewer who has written for the New York Times, Photoplay, Modern Screen, Films in Review and many others. He has published ten books including biographies of Robert Kennedy, Paul Newman, Frederic March and other celebrities. In 1977, he will be publishing biographies of Ronald Coleman and Warren Beatty. Below is a review of Quirk's novel, Some Lovely Image, a book close to his heart that he has published himself.

Some Lovely Image by Lawrence J. Quirk. Quirk Book Publishing. New York, 1976.

A Review by Mike Ritzer

Lawrence J. Quirk's novel *Some Lovely Image* was first conceived by him in 1958 in Boston and was completed in 1966 in New York. This year he revised it and has now published it himself. It is available in local bookstores and through mail order.

Some Lovely Image has elicited raves from some famous people who got "previews." It was called "charming and affecting and beautifully-written," "a spiritually subtle novel for the more intelligent and thoughtful reader," "a novel without sex and violence and so intense and passionate in its spiritual ambience that it doesn't need either!" These were typical reactions.

In the book's hero Tom Lanning, Larry Quirk has given the world someone who is needed — especially in this spiritually murky and debased period in American life. It would be a cliche to say that Tom has the strength of ten because his heart is pure, but pure he is. A young Boston aristocrat of singular spiritual radiance and con-

summate charm, Tom gets born in 1870 and gets to die in 1893, after 23 short but white-hot years. A tormented, obsessed young soul is Tom, for, you see, he is engaged in a search. It is Love Tom Lanning is after — Perfect Love, Exalted Love, Total Love — and Love he will have, living or dead. Cut off in the full flower of his manhood by peritonitis in a boiling Boston summer in a long-gone time, Tom's is a soul that knows no rest. He roams as a ghost through the world down through the years and decades until, like Francis Thompson's Hound of Heaven, he encounters another ghost who still happens to be among the living . . .

Love is the all-encompassing theme of *Some Lovely Image*, passionate, exalted, ultimate Love "to the depth and breadth and height the soul can reach," to cadge from Mrs. Browning. Tom Lanning, its strange, kinetic, young hero, is caught in a vicious cycle . . . He cannot find the one he needs and wants to love, but he is loved by a variety of people he cannot love: the society girl who is devastated by his abandonment of her on the eve of his fashionable wedding; the actress who pursues him obsessively but eventually is terrified by his strangely-

supernaturalized spiritual insatiability; the staid, repressed minister he terrifies by revealing . . . awareness of the minister's persisting love for a long-dead boy; the homosexual prep school and college friend who is . . . cajoled by Tom into a major writing career, but who pines for total intimacy; all of them loving Tom Lanning passionately . . . in some cases, devouringly. Yet he escapes them all into death, but not into peace . . .

And then 1893 shifts to 1958 and the blighted, soul-tormented writer who is dying for lack of love, spiritually incomplete in the same way that Tom is, and who finds Tom and is found by him 65 years after Tom's body (but not his spirit) has been laid in the aristocratic family lot . . .

Tom Lanning — the prince of many dreams, the ultimate hope and refuge of those who loved and love him, the consummate symbol of profound need and profound desire, at once hungering Dybbuk and cathartic Angel of Death.

The title of the Quirk novel comes from George Santayana's phrase "The inspiration of a profound desire, fixed upon some lovely image, is what is called love." Santayana, Henry James, Herman Melville, Whitman, Emerson would surely have taken Tom Lanning and *Some Lovely Image* to their hearts. If the novel should be understood by few today, it would be because we live in a world where the spirit has withered and the heart has starved, where the Great Religions have declined and honest sentiment and spiritual aspiration are derided and discounted.

But Tom Lanning is someone every intelligent and thoughtful and sensitive reader should want to know — someone to live with and to cherish — and in this deeply-felt, affecting novel of love denied and love fulfilled, Larry Quirk has given the world something that should live in all those who are of proper spiritual disposition.

(Reprinted with emendations from Quirk's Review, New York.)

Randolph Country Club Opens Disco

By Eric Rogers

If you enjoy discos and you can get hold of a car, take a twenty-minute drive down Rte. 3 and visit the Poolside Bar and Disco at the Randolph Country Club. The disco opened last Friday night and has the same friendly atmosphere as the rest of the club. The opening night crowd was full of happy people who can laugh and smile as well as do the usual drinking and dancing. There is certainly cruising in the bar, but it doesn't seem as overbearing as it does in some other discos. What is particularly refreshing about the Poolside Disco is that men and women are there in equal numbers and are sociable and friendly with each other. The disco is an ideal place to go for gay people who prefer a more sexually-

integrated atmosphere than most of our city discos.

The Poolside Disco includes a bar and a good-sized dance floor as well as an area of tables and chairs. The dance floor is illuminated by rhythmically-timed strobe lighting, and the music is current, popular AM disco, rather than more obscure disco-mix one hears at other places. The disc jockey is new at the business and has some trouble making smooth transitions, but this doesn't affect the "danceability" of the music or the spirit of the dancers.

The Poolside Disco is open Thursday through Sunday nights from seven o'clock until two in the morning. Admission is two dollars and drinks run about a dollar-fifteen, with beer at 75¢.

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Tyngsboro Bridge opens Friday, Oct. 29.



Photo by Roland Land

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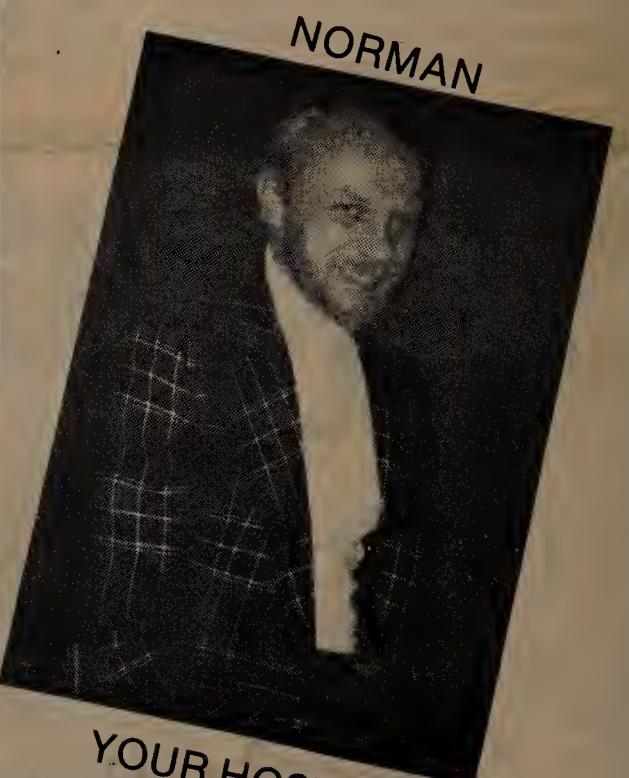


AT THE PIANO



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Live Entertainment Cozy Dance Floor

Mothers

(Continued from page 12)

the husband had a more stable home situation. Nobody raised the issue, and she lost the children.

A normal attorney's response would be "whaddayamean lesbianism? Well, let's see if we can prove it. Now can they prove you're a lesbian?" No, they can't prove I'm a lesbian. "They've never seen you in bed?" No, they've never seen me in bed. "Well, then, let's say you're not a lesbian." Which is stupid because (if a judge) . . . is even slightly suspicious that there's a sexual relationship going on there that you're not admitting to . . . he's gonna rule the same way . . . he's not gonna be honest. And it's very important to make the judges say — to appeal it — that it's because there's an "immoral" atmosphere.

Mickie: Of course lawyers don't know the questions to ask to find out if it's possible that you're known to be a lesbian — I mean the average lawyer is not gonna say, well, do you ever go to bars?

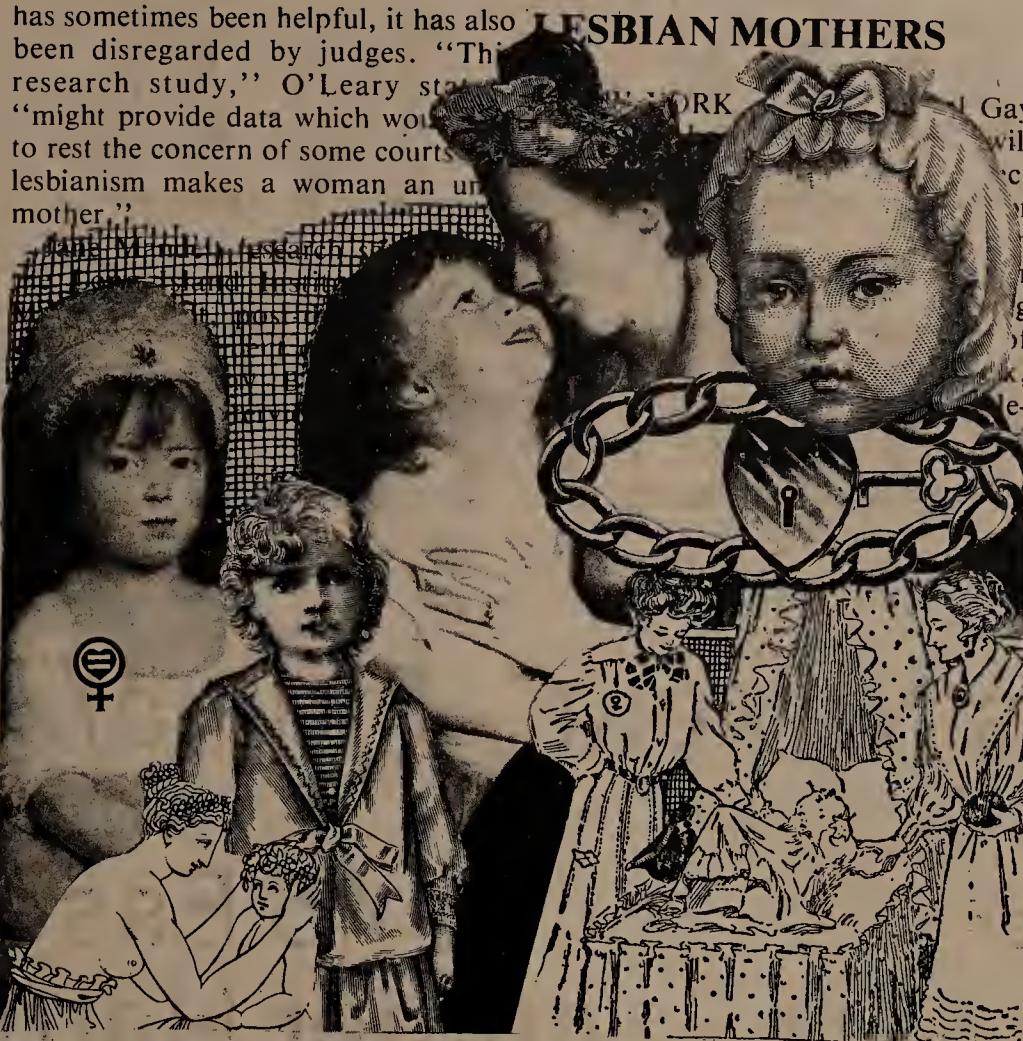
Tommi: How many cases has CALM dealt with? Or before we get to that, I don't think we established a date for when CALM started.

Rosalie: It began as a thing for collecting information.

Tommi: When was that?

Mickie: Rosalie's case was in October of 1974. I guess about three months later we began to collect information on lesbian mothers and then Rosalie was working for the Free

has sometimes been helpful, it has also been disregarded by judges. "The research study," O'Leary states, "might provide data which would go to rest the concern of some courts that lesbianism makes a woman an unfit mother."



Law School at the National Lawyer's Guild and she said at a steering committee meeting she wanted to do lesbian mothers as a project.

Rosalie: Now we have about twelve or thirteen cases that are court-bound. That means they're the cases we can't keep out of court.

Tommi: Are there support groups like this all over the country?

Rosalie: No . . . what happens generally is that there's one lesbian mother case in a community that gets some

LESBIAN MOTHERS

developed over the years and that's not a moveable set of values — it really isn't.

Mickie: And then, in some of the cases, the judges are downright voyeuristic in the questions they ask. They really do say, "Whaddaya do in bed?"

Rosalie: In fact one of our things (is) we get an expert witness to describe lesbian sexuality — what lesbians do in bed — so the judge has no excuse to ask the mother those questions because that could upset a mother so bad she could blow her own case.

And the judges don't know what lesbians do in bed! The only lesbian they've ever seen is probably the lesbian mother. It's like a whole new concept. All in one day you have to try and re-educate a judge.

The other thing I wanted to talk about . . . the other reason I started CALM is . . . I didn't feel that the lesbian community was really supportive of me and I still don't think so.

And I mean raising children doesn't fit in comfortably with the lesbian lifestyle. It doesn't fit in with the bars, it doesn't fit in with being free and independent and I think that certain kinds of radical feminists feel that when you ditched your husband you should have ditched the children, too. Especially if they're male children.

Tommi: Is there anything we've missed?

Rosalie: Oh yes, the other thing I was going to say — Judges are making some decisions that are absolutely appalling like a father was awarded custody of the remainder of his children even though he'd raped the eldest. I mean to me that's really mind boggling.

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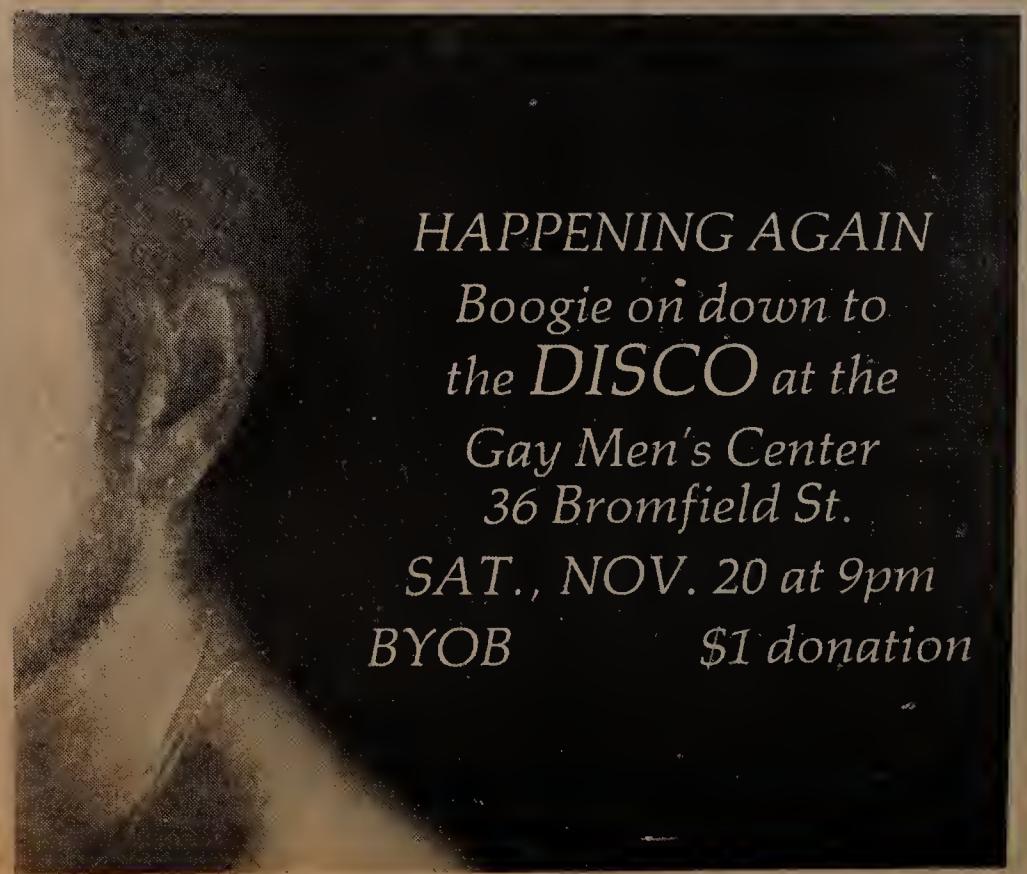
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The Elections Revisited

By David Brill

"Too much or not enough," was what I was thinking a few months ago when a smiling septuagenarian was carried away on a stretcher from a local bath after suffering an apparent coronary. I was also thinking the same thoughts about gay political power after the elections.

Having attended the Democratic National Convention from start to finish, as well as about two dozen other political affairs between then and the elections, I've come to the conclusion that gay political activity gravitates in the two opposite, extreme directions of immersion and *absentia*. The convention, despite its uninspiring product called the party platform, saw hundreds of gay picketers outside Madison Square Garden, a gay information center at the Hilton, and four overt (and about fifty or sixty covert, by my count) gay delegates. The media coverage received was at least as valuable a proof pudding as anything the platform could have produced.

Moving eastward from Gotham into Boston's Back Bay and Beacon Hill

neighborhoods, where straights could or should consider organizing as an oppressed minority group, one finds that the state senator from the area is none other than one Billy Bulger. No, he's not a lesbian, not even a member of the Civil Liberties Union. Billy has put as much energy into opposing gay rights legislation (and, for that matter, the Equal Rights Amendment) as he has into opposing busing (which doesn't affect half of the district at all), which energy is considerable. But on Nov. 2, the area's ample gay population was all but invisible, given the senator's overwhelming margin of victory. Where, I thought, were all the gays?

The gays, I learned, were over at 475 Commonwealth Avenue re-electing Elaine Noble. In 1974, the Fenway representative pulled in about \$18,000 for less than 1800 votes; this time she brought in maybe \$20,000 for 3300 votes. The cost of a Noble vote was therefore cut in half (from \$10 to \$5.09) in less than 2 years. And if this lady legislator can reap such papal sums against so hapless an opponent this time, there's no doubt that her

career in Boston politics is at least as safe as, say, Kevin White's was thought to be eight years ago.

Gays were scrambling all over the place in California, and they, as much as anyone else, were responsible for the election of S. I. Hayakawa as that state's junior senator. Had the Golden State's gay political regime not split this summer, with half of them (that includes Boston's Noble) opting for Fonda-spouse Tom Hayden, chances are incumbent Sen. John Tunney could have started his campaign from the vantage point of a unified party. But if there's any consolation in California, it's that the state's voters have a bad (at least it seems bad) habit of deposing their senators with every re-election campaign (Tunney took it from Murphy who took it from Sallinger, etc.), so who's to say anything is certain?

In the campaigns in the 7th Congressional District of Massachusetts, there was almost a complete absence of vocal gay people despite the exciting opportunity of working against Everett Rep. Bill Hogan, who never missed a moment to work against gay people. Rep. Ed Markey (he pronounces it, as I and all other respectable Bostonians do, Mah-kee) pulled off an impressive victory over 11 other challengers in September, and went on to an 81% victory in the general election. While doubtless "Another Gay for Markey" stickers probably wouldn't go over too well in Chelsea, it's regrettable that the gayest point in the entire campaign occurred one night in Saugus, when Markey said to me that Sen. Steve McGrail (who was one of the 11 squashed candidates) "talks like a senator but looks like a lifeguard."

Moving back into the city, the Dome

Room at Boston's Lenox Hotel had to be one of the most Liberal places on earth Oct. 21, when People vs. Handguns was hosting a farewell party/benefit for outgoing Boston Police Commissioner Robert diGrazia. Just everyone from the Brookline/Newton/Framingham shtick was there. The aforementioned Mah-kee, as well as Noble, Congressman Mike Harrington, the indefatigable Bah-nee Frank, even crusty Boston Police Supt. John Doyle (a notable exception) was there. It was a double-feature, a chance not only to aid a worthwhile ballot question cause, but to say adieu to the man who had the raw *chutzpah* to take on almost the entire Boston Police Department. Gays, who constituted but one group of people whose treatment was vastly upgraded under the diGrazia administration, showed up in as great a force as members of the police department itself — almost zero.

In fact, of all the campaigns all over the country, there was only one where gay people did exactly what they should have done, with the appropriate results — in the city of Cambridge. Gays did for Saundra Graham what the blacks did for Carter — gave 95% of their open support. They registered voters, organized precincts, and turned out on election day. Whether the gay people know it or whether Graham herself acknowledges it is unimportant. John Toomey, after 34 years in the House, was forcibly retired; he knows it and that's all that counts.

Fortunately, there is no one in the country who is elected to a lifetime term. Equally fortunately, there'll be many more opportunities in the next two years to show where gay people can be "too much" help or "not enough."

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people, places and flings

By David Holland

As I sit here inside today the first snow of the season falls. Why it's not even Thanksgiving yet! My long walk to work was punctuated with great slushy kicks of the white stuff. I suspect I'll be home waxing my skis but wishing I were Jamaica-bound. Fortunately for us there's enough indoor activities in and around town to keep us warm all through the winter months . . . Took in Molierre's *The Misanthrope* the other evening at the Boston Rep at One Boylston Place. I was not terribly amused. For such an excellent company the play was embarrassingly surprising. Hopefully their production, later this season, of Kirkwood's "P.S. Your Cat Is Dead" will merit the accolades this company has received in the past. But while you're waiting for that to arrive, they will be hosting Dick Shawn's one man show beginning Nov. 30 . . . The Lyric Stage will be performing Ibsen's "The Master Builder" through Dec. 18 at their location on Charles Street. The play, a tale of an aging architect with delusions of mysterious powers, is performing Thursday through Sunday evenings at 8:00 with a Sunday matinee at 3:00 . . . The Cambridge Ensemble,

who brought us Genet's *Death Watch*, is in fear of closing due to local zoning laws. If the standing decision is not reversed, well, it's goodbye outstanding theatre. You can send a card to Cambridge City Hall, Cambridge, Mass. 02139 . . . The Old South Church on Boylston Street will be the site of the premiere of "The Minister's Black Veil," an opera in one act. Performances are Nov. 19 at 8:00 and Nov. 21 at 3:00 . . . A rather bizarre and unusual film opens an exclusive engagement at the Paris Cinema. "Maitresse," starring Bulle Ogier and Gerard Depardieu, looks closely at the violence, both physical and emotional, inherent in relationships. The film's primary stage is Bulle's apartment which caters to the violent passions of her clients, but neither Bulle nor the film is limited to that, as attested in a lovemaking scene in a car. Not unusual you say? The car isn't parked . . . Is the most recent booking at Copley's Merry-Go-Round wonderful? Of course, you should know by now they rarely disappoint the classic jazz crowd. Jonah Jones appears with Bobby Fields, pianist extraordinaire, and others. Though it was another evening of great trumpeted jazz, I'm

still itchy in my seat for Earl "Fatha" Hines, appearing Nov. 22 . . . In New York, at the Glines, Anthony Santelmo returns with his poetry *The Pronoun "HE"* Nov. 18-21, which is followed by a lesbian film series from Nov. 25 through the 28th . . . But if a drink would warm you, better attend the grand opening of Harry's Place Upstairs Lounge, Nov. 19 at 6:00. Yes, they do have singing waiters . . . The Citadel's first floor women's bar is still going strong and should go stronger when Liberty Standing arrives Nov. 19 and 20. But until then women can enjoy drinks for just about half price and a smile on Monday through Thursdays . . . In the "Have You Seen?" category, Chaps is bedecked with a whole new lighting system. Red neon! And dotting its perimeter is a collection of miner's lamps. But beware of Beatrice, wonderful mad-woman photographer who has been snapping pictures left and right of the smiling clientele to adorn the Chap's "people-collage" wall. Copies of my pic are not, repeat, not available for reprint . . . Where's the crowd from the Boston Eagle going? To the B&K Lunch. No, the letters don't stand for some new fetish, they stand for good repast long

into the wee hours of the morning . . . Oh, I've been meaning to tell you for the longest time that not only does Baby Watson, a sugar-freak's delight in Cambridge and Quincy Market, carry chocolate and nutty orgasms but (no, I'm not kidding) gay bars, too. It's fun watching customers point to the butterscotch wonders and say, "Ah, I'll have one of those" while they tap the glass case . . . So, if after all that you still want to stay home by the fire you can curl up with the latest gay literature. Crowell Publishers will soon be releasing Jonathan Katz's "Gay American History" book, covering our influence over the past two hundred years . . . Pre-holiday hints: J.R.M. Cooper has come out with a delightful collection of gay greeting cards that depict more than just brotherly/sisterly affection. The illustrations are, ironically enough, from 19th century children's books. Their brochure is available by writing Cooper at 3002 Marietta Ave., Lancaster, PA 17601 . . . But, in town, Gayline Greetings is ready with this season's collection. Some of the cards are illustrated by our more illustrious graphics contributors, Steve Blevins and Gerry Takano (see ad for details) . . . Just got the brochure of the substantial gay book collection available through the Oscar Wilde Memorial Bookshop, 15 Christopher Street, New York City 10014. Send for yours . . . Au revoir, have a warm week.

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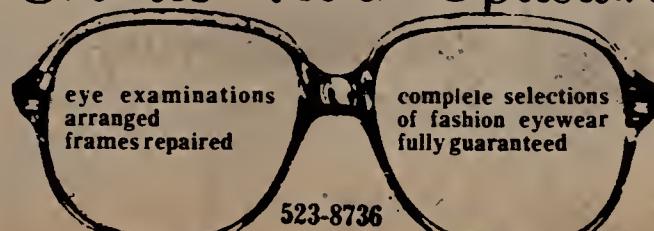
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MONDAYS
10-11 am — Drinking Problem discussion group,
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12 noon — Northeastern Univ. GSO meeting, Ell
Center, rm. 349, 360 Huntington Ave., Boston,
everyone welcome.

5:30 pm — Women's Community Health Center
open house, 137 Hampshire St., Cambridge

6:30-10 — Clark Gay People Drop-In Center, 148
Wright Hall, Clark U., Worcester

6:30-8:30 — Gay Health Services by appointment,
Fenway Community Health Center, 16 Haviland
St., Boston, 267-7573.

7-10 pm — UMass Gay Women's Caucus Hotline,
545-3438

7 pm — Parents of Gays, HCHS, 80 Boylston St.,
Boston; (617) 542-6075

7 pm — Rap Group, 83 Chapin Ave., Providence, RI

7 pm — Gay Women's Rap Group, at Another Way,
64 Chandler St., Worcester, MA 756-0730

7-9 pm — Univ. of Vermont Gay Switchboard,
656-4173

7-10 pm — Clark Drop-In Center, 148 Wright Hall,
Clark U., Worcester, MA

7:30 pm — Bowling, 1260 Boylston St., Boston,
247-3500

7:30-9:30 pm — Drop-In Center for women, Rm.
L-23, Curtis Hall, Tufts, Medford

7:30 — UMass Amherst, Bisexual Women's Rap
Group, Campus Center

7:30 pm — DOB Lesbian Mothers Rap, 419 Boylston
St., Boston, Rm. 323.

8 pm — Lesbian Rap and Action Group, Cam-
bridge Women's Center basement; (817) 354-8807

8 pm — Lesbian Rap at Women's Center, 215 Park
St., NH

8 pm — GPC business meeting, Columbia U.,
Furnald Basement; Broadway at 115th St.

8:9 pm — "None of the Above," WWUH-FM (91.3),
West Hartford, CT (203) 521-4553.

8 pm — Lesbian Rap at Women's Center, 148
Orange St., New Haven, CT.

8:30 pm — Hartford Gay Alcoholics Group (203)
522-2648

8:30 pm — Alcoholics Together, 83 Chapin Ave.,
Providence, RI

9 pm — Gay discussion group, Columbia U., Furnald
Basement, Broadway at 115th St.

TUESDAYS

1 pm — MCC Campus Ministry, RIC Student U.,
Rm. 312, Providence, RI

8:30-10 — Clark Gay People Drop-In Center, 148
Wright Hall, Clark U., Worcester

7-10 pm — Clark Drop-In Center, 148 Wright Hall,
Clark U., Worcester

7 pm — Pot luck supper at Resurrection House,
5 Junction St., Providence, RI

7:30 pm — DOB Women's Rap, 419 Boylston St.,
Rm. 323, Boston

7:30 pm — Gay Men's Center Speakers Forum, 36
Bromfield St., Boston

8 pm — Discussion group for lesbians and gay
men, Christ Church, 20 Carroll St., Poughkeepsie,
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8-10 pm — Open Gay Rap, Clark Drop-In Center,
148 Wright Hall, Clark U., Worcester, 793-7287.

8 pm — Springfield Gay Alliance, First Unitarian
Church, 245 Porter Lake Dr., Springfield

8 pm — Gay Way Radio, WBUR, 90.9 FM

8:30-10 pm — TGC Drop-In Center for Men, Room
L-23, Curtis Hall, Tufts

8:30 pm — Providence Gay Group of AA, Assumption
Parish Hall, 791 Potters Ave., Providence,
RI; 231-5853

8:30 pm — Gay Alliance at Yale, rap session,
Bingham Hall, Rm. B-8, 436-8945

9:30 pm — Tufts Gay Community meeting, La-
mian Lounge, East Hall, Tufts

WEDNESDAYS

11 am — Gay discussion group at Drop-In Center
of Northern Essex Community College, Haverhill, MA; open to everyone

6:30-8:30 — Gay Health Services, Fenway Com-
munity Health Center, 16 Haviland St., Boston,
267-7573.

6:30-8 pm — Gay Social Club, Roosevelt Hall,
group room, 4th floor, U of RI, info call 792-5256

8:30-10 pm — Clark Gay People Drop-In Center,
148 Wright Hall, Clark U., Worcester

7 pm — Men's Rap Group, 64 Chandler St., Worcester,
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7 pm — Religious Dialogue at MCC, 83 Chapin
Ave., Providence, RI

7 pm — Liberation Rap Group; (817) 756-0730

7 pm — Framingham Unicorn Society meets 2nd
and 4th Wednesday; Box 183, Framingham, MA
01701

7-10 pm — Clark Drop-In Center, 148 Wright Hall,
Clark U., Worcester.

7:30 pm — MCC Merrimack Valley rap/discussion
group, Box 750, Haverhill, MA 01830; 374-6905

7:30 pm — Gay Men's Center, Psychic Healing and
Gays in Fiction Workshops, 36 Bromfield St.,
Boston

8 pm — Yalesblans Meeting, Rm. B-8, Hendrie
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SATURDAYS

1 pm — GRAC soccer, Hatch Shell, Esplanade,
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7 pm — GRAC Basketball, Lindemann Ctr.,
Boston, 254-6689

8 pm — East Conn. Gay Alliance; 889-7530

8 pm — MCC/Hartford Drop-In Center, 11 Amity St.,
Worcester

9 pm — Coffeehouse, 64 Chandler ST., Worcester

SUNDAYS

10:30 am — "Closet Space," WCAS-AM, (740)

1 pm — MCC Church School, 63 Chaplin Ave.,
Providence, RI

1 pm — GRAC Swimming (Women only), Linde-
mann Ctr., Boston, 254-6680

2 pm — GRAC Swimming (Instruction), Linde-
mann Ctr., Boston, 254-6689

2:30 pm — "Gay A's" Alcoholics Rap, Old West
Church, 131 Cambridge St., Boston

3 pm — GRAC Swimming (Men Only), Lindemann
Ctr., Boston, 254-6689

4 pm — MCC/Worcester services at Central Con-
gregation Church, 6 Institute Rd., Worcester

4:30 pm — Gay Women's Group of Providence rap,
(401) 831-5184

5 pm — MCC/Boston Bible study group, 131 Cam-
bridge St.; 523-7664

5:30 pm — Exodus Mass; St. Clement's Church,
1105 Boylston St., Boston

6:30 pm — Telegraph Beacon Star — Gay Perspec-
tive, WTBS-FM 88.1

6:30 pm — Gay Church Services, 23 Franklin St.,
Bangor, ME

7-10 pm — Clark Drop-In Center, 148 Wright Hall,
Clark U., Worcester.

7 pm — GRAC Basketball (Women only), Linde-
mann Ctr., Boston, 254-6689

7 pm — MCC worship services, 83 Chapin Ave.,
Providence, RI

7 pm — MCC/Albany, NY, 332 Hudson Ave. (except
first Sunday of month at 8 pm)

7 pm — MCC/NY worship, 201 W. 13th St. (corner
of 7th Ave.)

7 pm — MCC/Boston, worship and fellowship, Old
West Church, 131 Cambridge St., Boston

7 pm — Church of the Eternal Flame Universal,
320 Farmington Ave., Apt. A-8, Hartford, CT

7:30 pm — MCC/Hartford, 11 Amity St., Hartford, CT

7:30 pm — "Come Out Tonight," radio WYBC-FM,
94.3, New Haven, CT

8 pm — GRAC Basketball (Men Only), Linde-
mann Ctr., Boston, 254-6689

calendar

15 mon

Boston — Pot Luck Supper at Gay Men's Center, 36 Bromfield St., 7:30 pm.

16 tues

Boston — DOB women's discussion on "Fear of Success," 7:30 pm, 419 Boylston St., Rm. 323.

NYC — West Side Discussion Group, 37 Ninth Ave., 8 pm, Robert Wilson presents "The Fascinating Lives of Stein and Toklas" including tapes of Stein and Toklas, donation requested.

18 thurs

Boston — Gay Topics Rap at Gay Men's Center, 36 Bromfield St., 7:30-9:30.

Cambridge, MA — Dykes and Tykes Rap Group. Topic: "Mothering: Myth and Reality," at Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., 8 pm.

Boston — Benefit for Harry Reems Legal Defense Fund at Together, 110 Boylston St., 5:30-7:30 pm, minimum \$10 donation.

Boston — Older and Other Gays meet in Church of St. John the Evangelist, 33 Bowdoin St., 7:30 pm, Richard Rubino speaks.

Worcester, MA — Dr. Richard Pillard of BU will speak on "Homosexuals and Psychotherapy," 218 Academic Center, Clark U., 8 pm, reception follows.

Amherst, MA — People's Gay Alliance of UMass sponsors Pot Luck Supper at Farley Lodge, 7:30, open to all, bring some food, info call 545-0154.



Boston — GCN layout every Thursday. If you have good spelling and grammar skills, help us copy read. If you have a steady eye and hand, help us lay out pages, from 1 to 9 pm, 22 Bromfield St.

19 fri

Boston — MCC pot luck dinner for gay couples, Old West Church, 131 Cambridge St., 7:30 pm, for info call 523-7664 or 426-6025.

Boston — Coffeehouse at Gay Men's Center, 36 Bromfield St., 8:30.

Cambridge, MA — Women's Community Health benefit, "Blood of the Condor," 7:30 and 9:30 at Harvard Science Center, Hall D, info call 547-2302.

20 sat

Boston — Disco Dance at Gay Men's Center, 36 Bromfield St., 9 pm.

Boston — "Gays and the Fight Against Racism," a workshop at the National Student Conference Against Racism at Hayden Hall, Boston U., 3:30-5:30 pm.

Worcester, MA — Wine and Cheese Party, 7:30 pm, 2 Wellington St., sponsored by MCC, \$1 plus bottle of your favorite wine.

21 sun

Boston — DOB Thanksgiving Dinner 6 pm at St. John's Church, 33 Bowdoin St., \$3, \$1 children, all women invited.

22 mon

Boston — WBCN "She's On" feature 'The Lesbian: Who Is She' with three Boston lesbians, 2 am.

Boston — GRAC Bowling, 8 pm Bowladrome, 1260 Boylston St.

Providence, RI — Men's Sexuality Rap 7:30 pm, 7 Junction St.

23 tues

Boston — Integrity regular meeting with Eucharist, Thanksgiving Pot Luck Dinner, please bring food, 7:30 to 9:30 Emmanuel Church, 15 Newbury St.

Boston — DOB Older Women's Rap 419 Boylston St., Rm. 323, 7:30 pm.

NYC — "Thanksgiving Week Art Night," everyone is invited to bring poems, short stories, song, art to share with others, cheese and wine will be served, 8 pm, 37 Ninth Ave., Info call 675-0143.

25 thurs

Worcester, MA — Thanksgiving Dinner sponsored by MCC, 5 pm, 2 Wellington St., all are invited to bring something to contribute to the meal.

Providence, RI — Thanksgiving Dinner sponsored by MCC, 5 pm, 228½ Atwells Ave., all are invited to bring something to contribute to the meal.